

HARWICH RAILWAY.

Capital £20,000, in 400 Shares of £50 each. Deposit £1 per Share.

PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE:

Louis Desanges, Esq. Edmund Jerningham, Esq.
Nathaniel Garland, Esq. H. W. Mertens, Esq.
William Gunston, Esq. William Adams Smith, Esq.

Kenneth F. H. Mackenzie, Esq.
With power to add to their number.

BANKERS—Messrs. John Wright and Co., Henrietta-street.

SOLICITORS—Messrs. Taylor, Turner, Sharpe, and Field, 41, Bedford-row; and Messrs. Winter, Williams, and Fossick, 16, Bedford-row.

ENGINEER—William Hosking, Esq., F.S.A.

SECRETARY—Mr. John Thompson.

TEMPORARY OFFICE, 26, Austin-ference.

The port of Harwich is the only port between the North Foreland and Hull which is accessible in all states of the tide; and it is the constant resort in bad weather of the Dutch, North of England, Dutch and Hamburg, steam and other vessels. It affords the most direct means of communication between London, Antwerp, and Rotterdam; and through them with Germany and the Rhine, with Hamburg, and through Hamburg with Prussia, and by means of the Aitona and Lubeck Railways generally with all the rest of the north of Europe.

A railway communication between Harwich and London will effect a saving in time between London and Rotterdam, or Hamburg, of twelve hours at least for mails and for passengers, and diminish the risk and consequent expense of merchandise as well as of passengers, by avoiding the shoals and sands in the estuary of the Thames. This communication will be carried by the Eastern Counties Railway from London to within sixteen miles of Harwich; and it is proposed to complete it by forming a railway from Harwich to fall into the Eastern Counties Railway at about two miles north-east of Colchester. A large agricultural district will be thus materially benefited; and the whole of the traffic of Belgium and Holland, and the north of Europe, with London and all England south of the Humber, and much of that from the eastern parts of Scotland, will be drawn through Harwich over the projected railway.

The line of country to be traversed by the railway is highly favourable for the purpose; and there are no parks or other ornamental or peculiarly valuable property which can be affected by it; and moreover, the project has the support of a landowner through whose property the line will run for several miles.

The Mayor, Aldermen, and Town Council of Harwich, and all the principal inhabitants of the town, have already pledged themselves in favour of the measure.

Applications for Shares may be made to the Secretary, at the office, or to the Solicitors.

Prospectuses will be issued in a few days.

LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM CANAL.

CAPITAL—THREE MILLIONS.

In Shares of £100 each—Deposit £2.

PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE:

CHAIRMAN—Francis Downing, Esq.

Bodger, Thomas, Esq. Dudley.
Bagnall, John, Esq. West Bromwich.
Barker, John, Esq. Wolverhampton.
Bradley, Richard, Esq. Tipton.
Buttlock, Edwin, Esq. West Bromwich.
Cotterill, Thomas, Esq. Birmingham.
Chance, Robert Lucas, Esq. Smethwick.
Chase, William, Esq. Birmingham.
Dixon, Edward, Esq. Dudley.
Foster, James, Esq. Stourbridge.
Finch, Francis, Esq. Great Barr.
Gresley, Richard, Esq. Meriden.
Groot, Joseph, Esq. London.
Hawkes, Thomas, Esq. Esq. Handsworth.
Haines, Richard, Esq. West Bromwich.
Hunt, Thomas Yates, Esq. Brades.

With power to add to their number.

SOLICITORS—Messrs. Ingoldsby and Wragge, Birmingham; Messrs. Baxendale, Tatton, Upton, and Johnson, 7, Great Winchester-street, London; Messrs. Wilson, Bell, and Steward, 35, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London.

CONSULTING ENGINEER—James Walker, Esq. F.R.S. L. and E., London.

RESIDENT ENGINEERS—James Green, Esq. Exeter; John Thomas, Esq. London.

SURVEYOR—Mr. Dugdale Houghton, Birmingham.

BANKERS—Messrs. Taylors and Lloyds, Messrs. Molillet and Son, Birmingham; the Birmingham Banking Company; Messrs. Dixon, Dalton, and Co., Dudley; Messrs. Hankey and Co., 7, Fenchurch-street, London; Messrs. Vere, Sapte, Banbury, Muspratt, and Co., 77, Lombard-street, London.

CONDITIONS:

1. The Act of Parliament will provide that no person shall be responsible beyond the amount of his Shares.

2. Deposit of £2 per Share to be paid, and no further call will be made till the Act is obtained.

3. The Deposit shall be available to the necessary expenses of the undertaking.

4. Interest at the rate of 3d per cent. will be allowed on the calls, until the completion of the Canal.

5. Calls will be made after the Act is obtained, by Quarterly payments of £2 5s. per Share.

PROSPECTUS

Of a line of Navigation from Birmingham to London, commencing at the Stratford-on-Avon Canal in Warwickshire, and ending at the Regent's Canal, London; to be called THE LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM CANAL NAVIGATION. The leading objects of the proposed undertaking are—

First.—To effect the cheapest and most direct practicable line of water communication between London and Birmingham, and the great mining districts of Staffordshire, Worcestershire, and Shropshire.

Second.—To obtain, by the communication it will open with the Regent, Stratford, Worcester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Ellesmere and Chester, Trent and Mersey, and Bridgewater Canals, the quickest, cheapest, and most convenient line of canal conveyance, between London, Birmingham, Liverpool, and Manchester; also by a junction with the Oxford Canal at Banbury, an improved communication to the city of Oxford.

Third.—To give the facilities and advantages of water conveyance to the valuable and extensive districts through which the proposed line of Navigation is intended to be taken; districts capable of great and rapid improvement, and to which nothing can so materially contribute as a cheap and direct communication with the Metropolis, and the great manufacturing towns of Warwickshire and Staffordshire.

It must be evident that the proposed undertaking embraces objects of the highest national importance, and cannot fail to produce great and almost incalculable advantages to the Agricultural, Commercial, and Manufacturing interests of the kingdom.

The extraordinary facility that this line would give to London and Liverpool, to the manufacturers of Manchester, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Dudley, Stourbridge, and Walsall, and to the Proprietors of Mines and Works in the counties of Stafford, Worcester, and Salop, must be obvious to the most superficial observer. Birmingham and Wolverhampton, and the contiguous mineral districts, would then be situated about midway, on the great thoroughfare water communication between London and Liverpool, and London and Manchester; and as vessels would be passing incessantly in each direction, the increased facility and dispatch could not but be productive of the highest advantages. The saving in distance by the proposed route will be thirty-six miles, and the locks will be reduced from one hundred and seventy-two to forty-eight.

One great feature of the proposed undertaking, is the opening of a cheap communication between the Mersey and the great coal-fields of Staffordshire and Worcestershire. In the attainment of this object, every inhabitant of London ought to feel himself interested; experience every day furnishing additional proofs, that nothing but effective competition from the interior of the kingdom can insure to the inhabitants of London a regular and steady supply of coal at moderate prices. Perhaps it is scarcely possible for the most sanguine mind to form an adequate conception of the benefits that would result from enabling the midland coal proprietor to compete with the northern proprietor, in supplying London with coal;—monopoly would be rendered impossible, combination frustrated, and free and active competition completely secured. By the proposed route, Staffordshire coal can be delivered in the City Basin at prices varying with quality, from £2 to 2s. per ton.

With a view to render this concern as extensively useful as possible, the rates of tonnage will be low, and thus command that great mass of business which invariably follows moderate charges.

Mature and road materials will be permitted to pass at low rates. Wharfs will be provided where the canal will intersect main thoroughfares, and every encouragement be afforded to the free development of the energies of the districts through which the canal will pass.

The proposed navigation will possess all the improvements of the best modern canals. Where tunnelling is necessary, two tunnels, with a towing path under each, will be made; the sides of the canal will be walled; and the greatest of all modern improvements, the double towing path, will be carried throughout the whole line.

Confident in the superior cheapness and convenience of water conveyance (particularly as regards raw materials and heavy commodities), the promoters of this undertaking have no hesitation in submitting their plan to the public, in the face of the numerous railways now in course of formation; every day, in their judgment, furnishing further and satisfactory proof, that though railway conveyance may be preferred for passengers and light goods, that require dispatch, and will bear high rates of transit, the great bulk of the trade of the country will still be carried on through the medium of cheap navigable communications.

The calculations as to the revenue being founded on indisputable data, the promoters of the measure have no hesitation in stating, that the prospect of remuneration is in the highest degree encouraging; and that, if due consideration be given to the merits of the proposed line, to the great extent and simplicity of its levels, to the superiority it will possess in respect to distance and lockage, to the well-ascertained fact, that a full supply of water can be provided, this conclusion will be fully warranted, that in a short time after its completion, this really grand internal communication will yield such a return, as will entitle it to be classed amongst the most productive and successful undertakings of the kind in the kingdom. According to a moderate estimate, full ten per cent. will be realized. By the proposed route, goods will be delivered in London in thirty-two hours, instead of seventy, by the existing route. The saving in freight 20s. per ton.

Applications for Shares to be made to the Solicitors, and to Mr. George Palmer, 2, North Plaza, Royal Exchange, London, according to the form underneath; and no Shares will be secured until the deposit is paid.

LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM CANAL.

Gentlemen.—I request that you will reserve and secure to me—shares in this Company; and, in consideration thereof, I agree to take the said share, and to pay the deposit of £2 as mentioned in the Prospectus.

THE GLOUCESTER AND HEREFORD RAILWAY.

through Newent, Dymock, and Ledbury, with a Branch to Ross to connect Monmouth, Kington, Leominster, Newton, Montgomery, Abergavenny, and the whole of the Midland Counties of Wales, with Gloucester, Cheltenham, and London.

To be incorporated by Act of Parliament.

Capital £50,000, in Shares of £50 each—Deposit £2 per Share.

DIRECTORS:

Hans Busk, Esq. Lieutenant-Colonel Morrison.
Richard Cooke, Esq. The Hon. F. W. Mullins, M.P.
Henry Charles Dakyne, Esq. Frederick Polhill, Esq. M.P.
James C. Disney, Esq. Thomas Dickenson Rotch, Esq.
G. B. Lonsdale, Esq. John Henry Walker, Esq.
A. W. Beetham, Esq. Major Macnamara, M.P.
Major Macnamara, M.P. Joseph Hume Wetherhead, Esq.

BANKERS—Messrs. Stone, Martin, and Stone, 68, Lombard-street; Messrs. Cox, Biddlethorpe, and Biddlethorpe, 45, Charing-cross.

SOLICITORS—Francis Beetham, Esq., 8, Chatham-place, New Bridge-street; John Gilbert Lander, Esq., 8, Gray's Inn-square.

ENGINEERS and SURVEYORS—J. Brathwaite, Esq., and William Laxton, Esq.

SECRETARY—George Brown, Esq.

The object of this Company will be to establish extensive Iron and Coal Works in Denbighshire, and for that purpose it is intended to purchase a very valuable freehold estate there, within a few miles of the port of Chester, which the owner has agreed to sell to the Company at an extremely moderate price.

DENBIGHSHIRE IRON AND COAL COMPANY.

Capital £100,000, in 400 Shares of £250 each. Deposit £1 per share.

SIR PATRICK BELLEVILLE, Bart. M.P.

LEONARD KOECKER, Esq.

THOMAS BARNEWALL, Esq.

GEORGE SMITH, Esq.

JOHN SMITH, Esq.

RICHARD M. BELLEVILLE, Esq. M.P.

With power to add to their number.

BANKERS—Messrs. Wright and Co., 5, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden.

SOLICITORS—Robert Aloysius Worman, Esq.

The object of this Company will be to establish extensive Iron and Coal Works in Denbighshire, and for that purpose it is intended to purchase a very valuable freehold estate there, within a few miles of the port of Chester, which the owner has agreed to sell to the Company at an extremely moderate price.

Various pits have been already sunk upon the estate, and an extensive mineral surveyor has duly surveyed both the Coal and Ironstone which it contains, and more rich and abundant cannot be found together in any other part of the kingdom. Moreover the quality of both is so fine as to be scarcely equalled, and the quantity as great as to be fairly termed inexhaustible. There are six seams of Coal and six veins of Ironstone, and the estimated minimum produce per acre, after leaving sufficient for pillars, is on an average as follows: Coal, 34,200 tons; Ironstone, 17,000 tons. It will, therefore, be easy to make weekly 329 tons of Pig Iron for the Liverpool and Lancaster markets, where it will always meet with a ready sale; and also to raise weekly 250 tons of extra Coal, to be sold at the pits for the neighbouring consumption, which will always demand weekly that quantity. To effect this, the capital will be thus distributed—

Purchase money for the estate £21,000 0 0

Act of Parliament to incorporate the Company, and the expenses connected with its formation 2,000 0 0

Furnaces, engines, and other expenses incidental thereto 34,000 0 0

Total dead capital 57,000 0 0

Ditto floating capital 43,000 0 0

£100,000 0 0

ESTIMATED YEARLY OUT-GOING EXPENSES.

Making 16,640 tons of Pig Iron, being after the rate of 329 tons weekly at £2 per ton £49,920 0 0

Raising 13,000 tons of extra coal for sale at the pits, being after the rate of 250 tons weekly, at 2s. 6d. per ton 1,723 0 0

Salaries, taxes, and other incidental expenses 2,300 0 0

Interest on £27,000 dead capital 2,850 0 0

Total annual expenditure £56,883 0 0

ESTIMATED YEARLY INCOME.

16,640 tons of Pig Iron, being after the rate of 329 tons weekly at £2 per ton £53,200 0 0

13,000 tons of extra Coal, at 2s. 6d. per ton 4,333 0 0

Surface rental 125 0 0

Total yearly income £57,658 0 0

Ditto expenditure 56,803 0 0

Yearly profit £20,855 0 0

Thus, it will appear that a profit of nearly 10 per cent. will be readily realized, should Iron continue its present advanced price, which the numerous railroads already in progress, or in contemplation, both at home and abroad, render not merely probable, but all but certain, the profits will then be greatly increased, so that this Company offers to the public a fairer, safer, and more lucrative investment of capital, than any of the Companies of the day.

No applications for shares will be received after the 15th of April inst.

Applications for shares (if by letter, post paid) to be made at the Company's offices, 17, Ironmonger-lane, where the Prospectus may be had; the Prospectus may also be had at the office of Mr. Worman, Solicitor, Claremont-square.

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE LONDON AND GRAVESEND and LONDON and DOVER RAILWAY COMPANIES.

The Directors of the London and Gravesend Railway Company, and of the London and Dover Railway Company, being aware how fully Government is impressed with the great national importance of a rapid communication between London and the coast, have caused different surveys to be made, in order to ascertain the best possible line for a Railway between those places, regard being had to population, revenue, and public benefit.

Being satisfied that it will be for the advantage of the proprietors of both these Companies that their interests should be consolidated in the intended application for an Act in the next Session of Parliament, and anxious to continue to enjoy that confidence which has hitherto been reposed in them, the Directors have been in negotiation with the promoters of the new Company, and have (subject to the approbation of the shareholders) made the following arrangement:

That the holders of certificates, either in the London and Gravesend Company or the London and Dover Company, on which a deposit of £2 per share has been paid, shall have the option of receiving scrip certificates for £2 each, in exchange for two shares in either of the said Companies, in the proposed new Company; and also that such of them as may wish to obtain a further interest in the new Company shall be allowed a preference in proportion to the number of certificates which they may exchange, on making application to that effect at the office of the Company, No. 76, Cornhill, on or before the 1st day of May.

Any proprietor who may prefer to have the deposit already made returned to him may receive the same, after deducting a proportion of the expenses which have been incurred, so soon as the accounts can be made up and settled, of which notice will be given at the earliest opportunity, provided they express their intention in writing, to the Secretaries, No. 76, Cornhill, on or before the 22nd April inst.

By order of the Board,

WILLIAM GREEN, COLIN SMITH, } Secretaries.

LONDON, SALISBURY, EXETER, PLYMOUTH, AND FALMOUTH RAILWAY COMPANY.

Capital £2,500,000, in shares of £25 each. Deposit £1 per share.

PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

JOHN ALLEN, Esq. RICHARD RONALD, Esq.
COL. WILLIAM BAILEY. JOSEPH BARNES SANDERS, Esq.
WILLIAM BORRILL, Esq. HENRY SHORT, Esq.
JOHN BROTHERS, Esq. SIR JOHN SLADE, Bart.
W. W. BURTON, Esq. JOSEPH SPARKES, Esq.
WILLIAM CASH, Esq. HENRY COLLINS SPALD, Esq.
ROBERT DOWNEY, Esq. HENRY SPARKES, Esq.
WM. CAMPBELL GILLAN, Esq. JOHN RODWAY STOCK, Esq.
A. I. H. GRUBB, M.A. THOMAS BRUCE SWINHORNE, Esq.
GEORGE HOGARTH, Esq. RICHARD HON. SIR EDWARD THORNTON,
EDWARD HUGHES, Esq. G.C.H.
H. NORMAN, Esq. COLONEL JOHN CHARLES TUFNELL.
ROBERT PAGO, Esq. JOHN TWELLS, Esq.
THOMAS PHILPOTT, Esq. GEORGE WALTER, Esq.
WILLIAM PINNEY, Esq., M.P. JAMES C. WILCOCKS, jun., Esq.
With liberty to add to their number.

STANDING COUNSEL—Sir William Webb Follett, M.P.; F. W. Slade, Esq.; P. Twells, Esq., and Richard Preston, Esq.

SOLICITORS—Messrs. Birkett and Son, and George Stephenson, Esq.

PARLIAMENTARY AGENTS—Messrs. Birkett and Gillan, and Sir Robert Sidney.

ENGINEER—George Landmann, Esq.</

ACCIDENTS IN MINES.—DAVY-LAMP.

EXAMINATION OF MR. GEORGE UPTON.

(Continued from No. 22.)

The result of your experiment is such as to lead you to believe that too much is attributed to the ignorance and carelessness of the miner, and too little to the dangerous circumstances in which the lamp is placed?—I believe so.

Then you would draw a further inference, that some of the accidents that have occurred where the whole of parties engaged at the moment in the mine have been lost, ought to be accounted for from the contingencies to which you have alluded?—I do; and I will state the reason: it appears that carelessness, as far as the Davy-lamp is concerned, must be almost entirely confined to the taking off the cap, or, as it is called, the wire-gauze cage of the lamp, to get a better light. A gentleman who was examined before this Committee, I believe, stated, that on one occasion he had examined a lamp after the men had been burnt, and that he found there was some small derangement of the wire-gauze. The man, it appears, had, on the ignition of the gas, thrown the lamp away, which might have occasioned that derangement; but if the cap had been taken off, the lamp would have been found without it, and near the spot whence the explosion originated; because the expansion of the inflammable gas is not in its greatest force where it ignites.

But as you are not a practical miner, you have not taken sufficiently into consideration the circumstance of a miner deranging his lamp, under the impression that the mine is safe at that particular moment?—I can only consider it probable that he would derange it to get a better light. I cannot see any other motive, and no derangement but that of taking the cap off the lamp would give him a better light; therefore, till it is proved that some lamp is found with a cap off, I shall always doubt that the accident has been produced by such a circumstance; for I consider it not possible for a man, under such circumstances, to replace the cap.

Might not the lamp be disarranged without the cap being taken off, supposing the side of the gauze was injured?—It might, but very little; and I think that sometimes the using candles, and at other times lamps, in the same part of a mine, has an injurious effect upon the care of the workmen.

Do not you think that the lamp being placed by the viewer or the overseer in the hands of a miner, is tantamount to saying the mine is not in a safe state, you must use particular care?—Yes; I have no doubt that it is so; but men will very often have to use a lamp instead of a candle. When the appearances are not sufficiently strong to indicate any sufficient reason for such a change, I have no doubt that they sometimes look upon it as a grievance, so far as their working is concerned, the candle giving the better light.

Have you had some conversations with miners upon this subject?—I have. I beg to observe, that the light of the Davy-lamp cannot be increased without destroying its safety, even as far as it now extends. It is known that the heat of the flame is according to its bulk; and the consequence would be, that if Sir H. Davy had increased the cylinder of his wire-gauze lamp to the extent necessary for a larger wick, the power of such a body of flame would be so great as to oxidize or to burn the gauze to pieces in a short time. This is stated particularly by Dr. Turner, in the "Elements of Chemistry."

Do you happen to know whether the men working in mines demand a higher price for working with lamps than with candles?—I have heard that they used to do so. Mr. Roberts stated, that he could do a great deal more work with a candle than with a lamp.

Will you describe what the general opinions of the men are as to the safety and the light of the lamp?—In Staffordshire there is one universal opinion as to its safety. I did not meet with a single instance of any person who had the least doubt of its safety; but the miners in Staffordshire, particularly in the very thick seams, do not work with it.

Had they been accustomed to use the lamp?—Seldom or ever to work by.

Have you ever in any place had a conversation with the men as to the light given by the Davy-lamp?—Yes: they stated that it was quite inadequate for the purpose for which they wanted it in the thick mines, to give them such a light as they could work by.

Have you ever conversed with the men in the north of England, where it is used, as to the light given by the lamp compared with candles?—No, I have not: in the thin seams much more light would be got from it than in the thick ones.

Are the men ever in the habit of using more than one lamp where it is required; two or three lamps together?—I saw one lamp, not a Davy-lamp, one of Mr. Stephenson's lamps, but it had not been used much.

Was that on the principle of combination of the Davy-lamps?—Much such a lamp as the Committee have amongst Mr. Stephenson's on the table. The men were very anxious to get a better light than the Davy-lamp gave them. They were very anxious to work with lamps on account of the known or supposed safety of them over candles, but they found it impossible, as I have before stated, to work with the light of the Davy-lamp in the thick mines.

Will you state whether you have taken into consideration the subject of general ventilation, independently of the use of lamps?—I have.

Have you any thing to state to the Committee upon that subject?—Only as connected with lamps: I have always considered that ventilation is in its nature specific; that is, adapted to the supposed quantity of gas produced in a regular way in the mines, and that it cannot be enlarged to such an extent as to meet sudden occurrences, such as the bursting of blowers, or the interruption of the ventilation of the mine, from falls and various matters that cannot always be guarded against: I therefore connect the subject with lamps in this way, that a real safety-lamp prevents any of such causal interruptions being of the serious consequence which they would be with a candle or an unsafe lamp. Supposing the case of an interruption of ventilation in any part of the mine, persons going into that part with a perfect lamp, that is, with a lamp that would not allow flame to pass, the circumstance of inflammable air being there, even to a great extent, would be known without its discovery being attended with more inconvenience than perhaps a disagreeable effect upon their breathing; but in the other case, the smallest interruption to the ventilation of the mine must, when a naked light or an imperfect lamp is used, be attended with bad consequences, and at times with those of a most destructive nature.

Does any part of your lamp come under the operation of the existing patents?—The cone or cap is belonging to a patent that is now in force to a lamp.

It forms a constituent part of the specification?—It does.

How long has that patent to run?—Seven years.

Have you made many lamps on the construction which you have submitted to the Committee?—Some few; but we have not yet attempted to sell any.

Will you describe the result of some experiments made by Dr. Turner and other gentlemen; had either of the gentlemen tried the effect of the explosive mixture in your lamp?—Yes.

Have they given an opinion upon it?—Yes, Dr. Turner has, and that opinion I can read.

Do you quote a private letter?—No; from a public book, his "Elements of Chemistry." He says, in his fifth edition, "These principles suggest the conditions under which Davy's lamp would cease to be safe. If a lamp, with its gauze red hot, be exposed to a current of explosive mixture, the flame may possibly pass so rapidly as not to be cooled below the point of ignition; and in that case an accident might occur with a lamp which would be quite safe in a calm atmosphere. It has been lately shown by Messrs. Upton and Roberts, lamp manufacturers of this city, that flame may in this way be made to pass through the safety-lamp, as commonly constructed; and I am satisfied, from having witnessed some of these experiments, that the observation is correct. This, then, may account for accidents in coal mines where the safety-lamp is constantly employed. An obvious mode of avoiding such an evil is to diminish the apertures of the gauze; but this remedy is nearly impracticable, from the obstacle which very fine gauze causes to the diffusion of light: a better method is to surround the common safety-lamp with a glass cylinder, allowing air to enter solely at the bottom of the lamp, through wire-gauze of extreme fineness, placed horizontally, and to escape at the top by a similar contrivance. Upton and Roberts have constructed a lamp of this kind, through which I have in vain tried to cause the communication of flame, and which appears to me perfectly secure. In case an accident should break the glass, their lamp would be reduced to a safety-lamp of the common construction."

Have any other scientific gentlemen given an opinion similar to that?—Mr. Pereira has.

Can you quote his own words?—Yes: "The lamp Messrs. Upton and Roberts have invented appears a much more perfect instrument than the Davy-lamp; for in all the experiments hitherto made with it, the flame has not passed through the wire-gauze;" although the same means as are detailed above were resorted to, in order to induce it to do so.

Have you offered to any gentlemen in the North, where these Davy-lamps are used, to try your lamps?—No, we have not; and for this reason, that we have considered that the first trial of a lamp in a mine could never be carried to the point to which it ought, without so much danger that no person would be present at the time, if he could help it; because, if the lamp were put to the proper test, and did not bear it, an explosion to a very considerable extent might take place; and if it were not put to that test, it would be of trial of its powers. It is well known that artificial gases can be made of much greater explosive power than carburetted hydrogen, and I consider the lamp ought to be able to bear more than it could at any time, or under any circumstances, meet in a coal mine; its safety ought not to be limited to a doubtful point.

Might not your lamp be put in some situation in a mine, where it would produce a partial explosion without producing a serious explosion?—No; it produced an explosion in any case, it must be expected to produce it in all similar cases.

Would that not be a trial of the lamp?—It might be so tried; there could be no objection to such a trial, after it had been tried elsewhere.

You are quite aware, that in some of the galleries the air is foul on account of the ventilation of the mine not being communicated to that particular section?—Yes.

And therefore an experiment might be made by placing the lamp in that section of the mine?—Yes: of course there could be no objection to that, or any thing that might lead to a good effect.

But if it were tried in one place, and did not explode, it might be tried in other places?—There could be no possible objection to any trial which it might be put, but I cannot see the utility of one of this nature.

But you are aware that by such means hundreds of pitmen, unacquainted with the safety of these lamps, might be convinced of the utility of your invention?—Yes; but I think if they saw the lamp, and were told it was safer than the Davy-lamp, and gave a better light, which they would at once see, they would have no hesitation in using it.

Would not the experiment, in some portion of the mine, where an explosion would be of no consequence except lighting the gas at that portion of the mine, convince the masters and the men too?—Yes, no doubt; but I think if the Committee were to have experiments made on the lamps by scientific men, and publish the results of those experiments, such a mode of proceeding would at once remove all doubt on the subject. I think this would be the shortest way, and so far desirable, as every moment's delay may be attended with danger.

Supposing the Committee should fix a day for the purpose of testing various lamps which have been brought before them, you are prepared to wait upon the Committee and assist in experimenting?—At any time.

The Committee observe you have placed two lamps upon the table; is the one which you have not described essentially different from the one you have described?—Both are on the same principle. The large one has been brought to show the capability of the principle being adapted to a larger scale of action: the principle is not circumscribed by a particular sized wick or production of light, as Sir Humphrey Davy's lamp is.

Then you apprehend that your lamp recommends itself to the owners of mines on the ground of safety and humanity, and that it recommends itself to the miners as affording a better light than one simply on the principle stated by Sir Humphrey Davy?—I do; and I think that the giving a better light will be a great inducement to the miner to fall readily into the use of a new lamp.

Supposing that a second glass were introduced where the gauze is, would not the effect be the same?—Yes; if the gauze could be dispensed with, there would be better light.

The principle of your light may be preserved as well with that alteration?—Yes: it does not want any gauze, other than to guard against external injuries.

Therefore an improvement upon your lamp would be to have a glass instead of gauze?—Yes, as to light, but not safety: a gauze is placed to meet any unexpected accident, because if the glass were to be broken, and the gauze not to be there, explosions might ensue, as with the Davy-lamp.

An accident that might destroy the two glasses would not effectually destroy the gauze?—We have a lamp with two glasses, but we feel a little circumscribed in one respect. It is necessary to avoid, if possible, much complication: safety-lamps have to go into rough hands, and if they are very delicate or complicated, their parts would be likely to be injured or misplaced, and get out of order, to an extent that might render them at times ineffective.

The price of your lamp, independent of the patent right, would not be very much greater than the price of Sir Humphrey Davy's lamp, would it?—We should be inclined to sell them at the price that lamps were generally sold at; getting a moderate profit. Though we should like to be repaid for a considerable outlay, yet, rather than any impediment should be placed in the way of removing the cause of those accidents, we should be very moderate in our price.

CHEMISTRY.

(Continued from No. 22.)

MANGANESE.

The substance known in commerce (continues Dr. Fye) by the name of manganese, is a compound of the metal of that name and oxygen. We are little acquainted with the metal itself, but the oxide alluded to is a valuable compound. When exposed to a red heat it gives off oxygen, and hence the method of procuring that gas on a large scale, merely by heating it in an iron retort, which is connected by tubes with a gasometer. The action with acids is also important. When heated with oil of vitriol it yields oxygen, and hence the method usually practised on a small scale. With muriatic acid it affords chlorine gas, which is disengaged from the acid, by the oxygen evolved from the oxide depriving it of its hydrogen. Hence the process for procuring this gas. When, however, it is prepared on a large scale, instead of muriatic acid, sea-salt and oil of vitriol are used, by which the previous preparation of the muriatic acid is avoided.

When the oxide is fused with nitre, a substance called mineral chameleon is formed; so termed from the change of colour it undergoes when dissolved in water; the solution being at first green, but afterwards becoming red. In this case the manganese acquires oxygen from the nitre, and becomes an acid, which acquires an additional quantity of oxygen from the air, when it is dissolved in water.

Black oxide of manganese is used in decolorising glass, as formerly explained; also, when used in larger quantity, for giving a purple colour to glass. It is used also in the preparation of the chloride of lime, or bleaching compound.

The metals next described belong to the class commonly called noble metals, not only from their value, but also from their power of resisting the action of heat and air; they are gold, silver, and platinum. Gold resists the action of acids; the fluid that acts most easily is aqua-regia, owing to the chlorine it contains, and by which a brown solution of muriate of gold is formed. This solution is valuable from the ease with which it is decomposed by other substances, and by which useful compounds are procured. When mixed with solution of muriate of tin, it yields the purple powder of cassius, used for giving to glass a rich red colour. Gold is easily alloyed with other metals, some of which, as lead, impair its ductility and malleability; others, as copper, add to its hardness. By order of Government, gold is alloyed with copper when used for coins, sterling gold containing one-twelfth part of copper.

Silver also resists the action of heat and air, but is more easily attacked than gold by acids. With nitric acid it forms a colourless solution, the nitrate, which, when evaporated to dryness and fused, yields lunar caustic. The salts of silver are, when exposed to light, liable to become black; and hence the use of the solution of the nitrate in the manufacture of indelible ink, which is merely a solution of the nitrate with muriage and a little China ink. Some of the metals, as copper, decompose the nitrate; and hence the method of throwing down silver from it; and as silver is soluble in nitric acid, and gold is not, they can be easily separated when alloyed, and obtained in their metallic state.

Platinum resembles gold in its resisting the action of heat and air, and also of acids; it is dissolved, however, by the nitro-muriatic, affording a brown solution, from which ammonium and its salts precipitate a yellow powder, which, when exposed to a red heat, yields platinum in its metallic state; hence the method of preparing sponge platinum.

The metals described have the property of forming fulminating compounds, the most important of which is that with silver; it is procured by dissolving lunar caustic in water, and adding alcohol, by which the fulminating compound is precipitated.

Dr. F. next described generally the different methods of procuring gold, silver, and platinum; after which he made a few remarks on the metals bismuth and cobalt; the former valuable from the ease with which it is fused, and hence used, when alloyed with others, in the making of solder and fusible metal; the latter from its yielding, when dissolved by muriatic acid, a sympathetic ink, which, when much diluted, gives traces on paper that are colourless, but becomes blue by being heated.

CHROMIUM.

The only other metal described was chromium, which, though itself not valuable, yet is, when in the state of a salt, a very useful substance. It exists in the chrome-ore discovered by Hibbert in Shetland. When the ore is fused with nitre, and the solution obtained is acidulated with sulphuric acid, it yields the salt called chromate of potash, which is valuable, from the different coloured compounds it affords by the addition of metallic solutions; and hence its use in calico-printing.

Having finished the account of inorganic bodies, Dr. F. next proceeded to the chemistry of organic bodies, commencing with those of the vegetable kingdom.

Vegetable substances in many respects resemble each other in their general properties. With few exceptions their component parts are oxygen, hydrogen, and carbon. Some contain nitrogen, and all have a minute quantity of saline and earthy matter. They are all decomposed by heat; when excluded from air the products are water and hydro-carbon; but when heated in air they yield water and carbonic acid. Those that contain nitrogen also afford ammonia when decomposed by heat. With acids they are decomposed, the action varying according to the nature of the acid. Vegetables undergo spontaneous changes, called fermentations, of which there are three kinds: the etiaceous, the acetous, and putrefactive; the first so called because vinous or spirituous fluids are produced; the second, because acetum or vinegar is the product; and the last, because the substance runs into putrefaction. Fermented fluids are divided into two classes: the vinous, obtained from the juice of plants, and malt liquors, got from the infusion of cereals. Dr. F. next described generally the process of brewing, by which ale and porter are prepared, and showed the method of finding when the fermented fluid is of the

requisite strength. All fermented fluids yield by distillation spirit of wine or alcohol; and hence the process of procuring whisky, merely by subjecting to distillation any fluid previously made to undergo the vinous fermentation, the distillation being repeated again and again according to the required strength. From spirituous fluids alcohol, in a state of purity, is procured by distilling it repeatedly from substances that have a powerful attraction for water; as lime, muriate of lime, or potassa. Another process consists in putting common alcohol into a bladder, and keeping it for some time at the temperature of about eighty, by which the water exudes through the pores; a third method consists in keeping it under the exhausted receiver of an air pump along with lime, by which the watery vapour given off is absorbed by the lime, leaving the alcoholic vapour to exert a pressure on the alcohol, and prevents its further evaporation, while the water in it is constantly dying off in vapour, and is condensed by the lime. By these processes alcohol free from water is obtained of sp. gr. 796. In this state it is very volatile and inflammable; during its combustion yielding carbonic acid and water. It is decomposed by acids; with sulphuric acid, when in large quantity, it yields olefiant gas; and hence the method of preparing it.—*Edinburgh Review.*

IMPROVEMENT OF THE STEAM-ENGINE.

We extract the following observations from the last number of the *Glasgow Liberator*:

So many intimations of important improvements in this machine have, since the days of Bolton and Watt, been given to the public through the medium of the newspaper press, and yet comparatively so little improvement really effected, that persons who have turned their attention to the subject are now generally inclined to treat such notices with very little attention. Although of that class who are doubtful of the possibility of making any great improvement in the construction of the steam-engine—as at present made by intelligent engineers—we are, nevertheless, of opinion, that an attempt at that desirable object, which was made a few weeks since in this city, is entitled to the serious consideration of all who feel interested in the progress of this important machine.

The object of the attempted improvement referred to is to dispense with the air pump, and all the large and expensive valves connected with it: a small pump being used to pump air only, while the discharge of the injection water and condensed steam is attained by another simple and ingenious contrivance. The manner in which the discharge of the water from the condenser was effected will be easily understood by reference to the principles of mechanics. The condenser was placed at a considerable height above the cylinder, and had a simple pipe communicating with its lowest part, and continued downwards about thirty feet, where it terminated a few inches under the surface of water. By means of this pipe the condenser was kept constantly clear of water. The only means employed to extract the air and uncondensed vapour was by attaching a very small pump to the condenser. The pump employed for this purpose was merely the one end of the hot water pump. The hot water pump will probably be about a six-hundredth part of the capacity of the cylinder, while the air pump is generally made two-thirds of the diameter of the cylinder, and half the stroke or about a fourth of the capacity.

With this substitute for the air pump the engine wrought for several weeks, and maintained a vacuum of 11 lbs. to the square inch. The engine on which this experiment was tried is eight horse power, and is the property of Mr. Edgar. The person to whom the contrivance and prosecution of this scheme is due is Mr. M'Pherson, manager of Mr. Edgar's chemical works. The plan is not altogether new, but we believe never has been attended with such success as in the present case, and only considered applicable where a fall of thirty feet below the engine was to be had. Mr. M'Pherson was for several sessions a zealous member of the mechanics' class, and is pushing himself forward in the world entirely by his own merits. He seems to have thoroughly considered the action of the steam-engine, and has had the advantage of consulting several experienced practical engineers who felt interested in his scheme. There are some persons, however, who have given Mr. M'Pherson very little encouragement to proceed in his undertaking. Among those is an elder (no *asiat* by-the-by), who decides all such questions with very little consideration. We believe he has not attempted to prove the necessity of the large air pump; but this *dictatorial* dealer more respect should be due to his opinion of the engine-house than of the engine.

We believe the quantity of air contained in river water is about one-fortieth of its bulk. Supposing that, in the case of the engine referred to, the quantity of water admitted into the condenser to be 34 gallons per minute to each horse power; and supposing the hot water pump of capacity to throw sixteen cubic feet per hour—on this supposition the quantity of air disengaged from the injection water would be only about a seventieth of its bulk, the pressure in the condenser being about four lbs. It is probable, however, the hot water pump is larger than we have allowed. It will be objected to Mr. M'Pherson's plan, that though there are many engines working below 11 lbs. vacuum, yet it is not by any means reckoned sufficient for a good engine; but when it is considered that the engine on which the experiment was made was an old one, and all the apparatus merely of a temporary kind, and yet that the vacuum was sometimes so high as 11 lbs.—after these considerations, there is good grounds for expecting that the plan will succeed still better under other arrangements. It would be advisable to use a much larger pump than that employed by Mr. M'Pherson. It is evident that the dimensions of the pump, to produce any greater degree of rarefaction, must be increased, at least as the squares of the times that the air is to be rarefied, so that Mr. M'Pherson would require to employ a pump sixteen times larger than that previously employed, in order to rarefy the air in the condenser four times, that is, to reduce it from four to one pound of pressure; but even that would be very small compared to the air pump at present in use.

With these remarks do we not leave this subject for the present, hoping that if engineers do not show cause for making large air pumps, some intelligent purchaser will look over the expense of brass valves, boring air pumps, &c., and gain sufficient courage to try an engine on the improved plan.

CORNWALL LENT ASSIZES.

MATTHEWS AND ANOTHER v. TREFFRAIL.

Mr. Serjeant Bompas, with whom was Mr. Dampier and Mr. Butt, conducted the plaintiffs' case; and Mr. Erie, with whom was Mr. Crowder and Mr. Pratock, the defendant's. Mr. Gillies, of Truro, was the attorney for the plaintiffs, and Messrs. James and Hodge, of the same place, for the defendant. The plaintiffs' case was taken up by their attorney from purely charitable motives.

PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

The annual general meeting was held on the 19th February last, when the report of the council was read, from which it appeared that a gradual increase in the number of its members had taken place. Forty-five new Fellows having been elected, and the deaths and resignations being sixteen. Upon the whole, the society, which, at the end of 1834, consisted of 745 members, at the end of 1835, had increased to 774.

The expenditure in the past year had been under the estimates submitted to the society.

Out of the proceeds of the Wollaston Fund at the society's disposal, the council had thought fit this year to present a medal to M. Agassiz, to mark their high sense of the value of his work of last year upon fossil fish; and to award to M. Deshayes the sum of 25*l.* as some assistance to him in his labours on fossil conchology.

The report of the committee appointed to examine into the state of the Library and Museums was then read.

The following is the address to the Geological Society, delivered at the anniversary, by CHARLES LYELL, Jun., Esq., president:—

GENTLEMEN.—You have learnt this morning, from the annual report of the council, that the financial affairs of the society continue to flourish; and that since our last anniversary we have published the concluding part of the third volume of our Transactions, and the first part of a fourth volume. Another part of the same volume is nearly ready, and the council have directed their thoughts seriously to the means of preventing, in future, the accumulation of such heavy arrears of unpublished memoirs. The delays have hitherto arisen from a desire to print all papers containing original and valuable matter in the order in which they were presented; but many have been sent to us in an unfinished state as to retard the printing of the rest, and, as the science advances rapidly, and new facts pour in daily, the authors even of the most finished memoirs soon require to make additions and corrections, and thus the evil is continually augmenting. The council have therefore resolved, for the future, to print at once those memoirs which are in the most complete state, without waiting for others which are imperfect.

During the last year there have been elected into the society forty-five new members, and we have lost four by resignations and twelve by deaths. Among the names of the deceased Fellows, I may mention those of Mr. Goodhall and Mr. Mammatt, as having zealously contributed to the progress of our science. Mr. Goodhall was an active collector of British fossils, and to his labours we owe many valuable contributions to our museum, and the discovery of shells of new species, figured in Sowerby's *Mineral Conchology*. The work of Mr. Mammatt, on the Coal-field of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, has been honourably mentioned by my predecessor, Mr. Greenough, in his last anniversary speech. Mr. Mammatt had superintended, for more than thirty years, the working of extensive coal-mines, and kept a record of the details of various sections with which he was practically acquainted. To these documents he has added several plans of remarkable faults which intersect the carboniferous strata of Leicestershire. He has shown that on one side of one of these faults the beds rise to the height of 500 feet above the corresponding beds on the other side, yet the mass of uplifted strata does not project above the general level of the country. He infers, therefore, that it has been removed by denudation, and that the wreck of it alone now remains on the surface in the shape of sand and boulders. Mr. Conybeare has drawn similar conclusions respecting analogous phenomena observed on a still greater scale on the Newcastle coal district.* Whether the denudation was sudden or gradual, or whether the faults were produced at once, or were the result of a series of movements, are points which the limits of this discourse will not allow me to discuss at present. Mr. Mammatt contends that these enormous shifts were not effected by volcanic convulsions, but simply by a quiet and uniform operation accompanying the desiccation, shrinking, and induration of dense masses of argillaceous and other rocks; an opinion which, however ingenious, seems irreconcileable with the evidence of violent disruption with which this and other coal fields abound. Mr. Mammatt's volume is illustrated by more than one hundred plates of fossil plants, but it is much to be regretted that, before executing such costly illustrations, the author did not obtain the assistance of a skilful botanist, who might have selected the most important, and might have added descriptions, without which mere figures can scarcely ever convey accurate information.

Early in the spring of last year, an application was made by the Master General and Board of Ordnance to Dr. Buckland and Mr. Sedgwick, as Professors of Geology in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and to myself, as president of this society, to offer our opinion as to the expediency of combining a geological examination of the English counties with the geographical survey now in progress. In compliance with this requisition we drew up a joint report, in which we endeavoured to state fully our opinion as to the great advantages which must accrue from such an undertaking; not only as calculated to promote geological science, which would alone be a sufficient object, but also as a work of great practical utility, bearing on agriculture, mining, road-making, the formation of canals and railroads, and other branches of national industry. The enlightened views of the Board of Ordnance were warmly seconded by the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, and a grant was obtained from the Treasury, to defray the additional expenses which will be incurred in colouring geologically the Ordnance county maps. This arrangement may justly be regarded as an economical one, as those surveyors who have cultivated geology can, with small increase of labour, when exploring the minute topography of the ground, trace out the boundaries of the principal mineral groups. This end, however, could only be fully accomplished by securing the co-operation of an experienced and able geologist, who might organize and direct the operations; and I congratulate the society, that our foreign secretary, Mr. de la Beche, has been chosen to discharge an office for which he is so eminently qualified.

At the same time that measures are thus in train for completing a geological map of England on a magnificent scale, the map of Scotland, by Dr. MacCulloch, which has been so long and impatiently expected, is at length on the eve of publication. But at the moment when I can announce this welcome intelligence, we have to deplore the sudden loss of this distinguished philosopher. The first paper in the first volume of our Transactions was from the pen of Dr. MacCulloch, and subsequent volumes contain no less than eighteen of his memoirs. It would lead me far beyond my present limits were I to attempt to give a general analysis of these, and of his numerous other works on geology, such as his *Western Islands*, and his classification of Rocks. The influence exerted by them on the progress of our science has been powerful and lasting, yet they have been less generally admired and studied than they deserve. Their popularity has been impaired by a want of condensation and clearness in the style, a defect which no one could more easily have remedied than the author, had he been willing to submit to the necessary labour. Another blemish has also contributed to give a repulsive character to some of his later productions, especially his *System of Geology*, the absence, or apparent absence, of all enthusiasm and love for his subject, and a disposition to neglect or speak slightly of the labours of others, and even to treat in a tone bordering on ridicule some entire departments of science connected with geology, such as the study of fossil conchology. I attribute these imperfections principally to habitual ill-health, acting upon a sensitive mind; for certainly, Dr. MacCulloch's spirits were much depressed by bodily sufferings when I had first the pleasure of knowing him, about the year 1825. His imagination was then haunted with the idea that his services in the cause of geology were undervalued, and it was in vain to combat this erroneous impression. After that period he almost entirely withdrew himself, even when residing in London, from all personal intercourse with the most active geologists; and to those who knew him this seclusion from scientific society was a subject of frequent regret. Having expressed myself thus unreservedly on some of the peculiarities and defects of his style, I may affirm, that as an original observer, Dr. MacCulloch yields to no other geologist of our times, and he is perhaps unrivalled in the wide range of subjects on which he displays great talent and profound knowledge. For myself, I may acknowledge with gratitude, that I have received more instruction from his labours in geology, than from those of any living writer.

One of the most important communications which we have received for many years, is an essay by Professor Sedgwick, on the changes of structure produced in stratified rocks after their deposition. Respecting the magnesian limestone, he has confirmed by new arguments the conclusions which he formerly drew, in proof that the complicated concretions of this rock have been produced since the original deposition of the beds. But the principal part of his memoir is devoted to the description of the cleavage or slaty structure of rocks, and those partings which have been called joints. The author first shows the analogy of the Cambrian zone of green slate and porphyry with the structure of the principal chain of North Wales. In these regions, as in part of the slaty series of Westmoreland and Lancashire, occur many beds exhibiting a slaty cleavage, which the Professor distinguishes from a jointed structure. Joints, he says, are fissures placed at definite distances from each other, the masses of intervening rock having no tendency to cleave in a direction parallel to such fissures: whereas in the planes of cleavage, the rock is capable of indefinite subdivision in a direction parallel to such planes. The planes of stratification, on the other hand, are perfectly distinct from both, and throughout the district alluded to have never been found to coincide with the lines of cleavage, dipping sometimes to the same point, and sometimes to opposite points of the compass, but being always inclined to them at an angle of from 10° to 30° or 40°, and in no instance at 90°. There are regions in North and South Wales thirty miles in extent, and many miles in breadth, where the cleavage planes preserve an undeviating dip and direction, notwithstanding that they traverse strata which are greatly contorted.

In that variety of slate-rock which is used for roofing, all traces of original deposition or stratification are often obliterated; yet in many quarries a number of parallel stripes is discovered, sometimes of a lighter and sometimes of a darker colour than the general mass. These stripes, says the Professor, are universally parallel to the true beds, whenever such beds can be discovered, whether by organic remains, by the alternations of similar deposits, or other ordinary means. Many of these beds are of a coarse mechanical structure, others are fine chloritic slate; but the coarser beds and the finer, the twisted and the straight, have all been subjected to one change, a crystalline cleavage passing alike through all. Some of the sections given, show the cleavage planes preserving an almost geometrical parallelism, while they pass through curved strata, of which the sedimentary origin is obvious. In another place, it is said, that where the slaty cleavage is very perfectly brought out, the rocks always make an approach to homogeneity; but where the coarse beds predominate, the slaty structure almost entirely disappears. Dr. Boase, in his comments on these passages, has remarked that they seem inconsistent with each other, and I confess that at first they struck me in the same light; but the Professor has explained to me, that although the coarse beds are not slaty, they have a grain parallel to the cleavage planes of the finer beds, this grain being exhibited when they are struck with the hammer; and it is only when the materials of the beds are very coarse, that the cleavage planes entirely vanish.

In regard to the origin of these phenomena, the author supposes that crystalline or polar forces must have acted on the whole mass, simultaneously in given directions, and that the action being carried on at once through a very large mass of matter, may have acquired an accumulated intensity of crystalline action in each part; so that the whole intensity of crystalline force, modifying the mass, may not have been equal to the sum of the forces necessary to crystallize each part independently, but may have been some function of that sum, whereby it may have been increased almost indefinitely.

I regret that I have not space to do justice to this ingenious speculation, nor have I yet had sufficient opportunities of observation, to know whether we shall be able to distinguish generally, with precision, those slates which are diagonal to the strata, from those flagstone-slates, as it is proposed to term them, which are parallel to the layers of deposition. During the last summer, I observed in the Swiss Alps, that the fissile roofing-slate, and drawing-slate of the Niesen, in the Canton of Berne, divides into extremely thin laminae, which are parallel to the true planes of stratification. The direction of the beds is shown by alternations of coarse and clearly mechanical strata of a kind of greywacke, the whole series belonging to the green sand or fucoid grit formation. If it be said that these slates may owe their laminated texture to extremely minute flakes of talc, mica, or some other foliated mineral, which may have fallen as sediment, and have been all deposited on their flat surfaces, I reply, that in that case they would exemplify the exact similarity of certain acknowledged slates of deposition to others which have originated in crystalline forces independent of sedimentary action. Mr. Murchison, after confirming the truth of the Professor's observations as applied to all those regions of Wales which have come within his survey, has pointed out what might by some be considered an exception to the rule, in a part of the slate-rocks of Pembrokeshire, where the planes of slaty cleavage are coincident with the true laminae, as proved by colour and the alternation of various layers of deposit. Mr. Murchison states, however, that although these rocks are quarried as roofing-slates, and are a part of the older system, they may be classed by Mr. Sedgwick as fine flagstones.

Some confusion will, I fear, arise from attempting to restrict the term slate to those cases alone where the cleavage is oblique to the stratification; but whatever nomenclature we adopt, it is clear from the excellent paper of the Professor, that three distinct forms of structure are exhibited in certain rocks throughout large districts: namely, first, stratification; secondly, joints; and thirdly, slaty cleavage; the last having no connexion with true bedding, and being superinduced by a cause absolutely independent of true gravitation. These different structures must have different names, even though there may be cases, and I believe there will be many, where it is impossible, after carefully studying the phenomena, to decide upon the class to which they belong.

One curious consequence, but slightly alluded to by the author, appears to follow from the facts described, namely, that the slaty structure must have commenced at a period posterior to the last series of violent movements which dislocated the strata, and threw them into anticlinal and synclinal lines. Such disturbances would have deranged the parallelism of the cleavage planes. If, therefore, there are proofs, as I believe there are, of the elevation or subsidence of these rocks since they assumed the slaty structure, the whole country must have been moved bodily, or the separate masses, if they changed their relative position, must have moved in such directions as to allow the dip of the cleavage planes to remain unaltered.

(To be continued.)

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

At the meeting of this Institution, on Tuesday the 28th of March, the President, JAMES WALKER, Esq., in the Chair, a model of an iron railway chair was first exhibited. It is of simple construction, being merely a resting point for the rail, supported by four legs, the feet of which are turned up at a considerable angle. Mr. Baker, the inventor, who was present, said, in answer to questions put by the president, "that the chair should be embedded in concrete; that the depth of the concrete must vary according to the nature of the ground through which the line of railway passes; that on the common London clay, two feet six inches, under the feet, would be sufficient; that the expense must depend upon the facility of procuring materials for making the concrete; that where gravel could be easily obtained, the chairs could be applied as economically as the blocks now in course of being laid down on the London and Birmingham line; that he proposed to keep the rails to their bearing, by wedges, the joints to be filled with tared oakum, so as to allow expansion and contraction." In answer to an observation from Mr. Macneill, Mr. Baker said, "that the object in turning up the feet was to resist the lateral concussion, as the weight or pressure is not, altogether, vertical." Mr. Fordham highly approved of the invention; and said, "that on a railway with which he had been connected great inconvenience had been felt, and considerable loss sustained, from the want of some such contrivance."

Mr. Storey, engineer of the Stockton and Darlington Railway, in reply to a series of questions from the chairman, said, "that for railway blocks a perfectly hard or elastic substance was greatly to be preferred; that a soft or non-elastic stone block soon wears away, under the action of the rail; that the size of the block, at present used, is four cubic feet; the weight of the rail is forty-eight pounds per yard; that the weight of the rails originally laid down on the Stockton and Darlington line was twenty-eight pounds per yard; that the weight of the locomotive engines varies from five to eleven and a half tons, the diameter of the cylinders of the small engines is ten inches, of the large fourteen: the average speed of the trams carrying coals is eight miles per hour; that the maintaining of the railway in repair is contracted for, at from 74*l.* to 150*l.* per mile per annum, the company finding the materials; that 74*l.* is paid where the trains are drawn by horses; the carriages travel twelve miles, each way, six times a day; the engines are also kept in repair by contract; the company find the engines, the contractors pay interest on the first cost of the engines, and afterwards keep them in repair, at a price which varies from tenpence to sevenpence per mile; that for those travelling at twelve miles in the hour, tenpence is paid, and sevenpence for those at eight miles: the contractors find coal; very little coke is used; the coals cost 3*s.* 6*d.* per ton. The coaches cost from 80*l.* to 120*l.*: that 450,000 tons of coal, 12,000 tons of lead, and other loading, amounting in all to about 500,000 tons, were carried on the railway during the last year: that the inclination is generally with the load; the inclination near Stockton is at present 1 in 120, it was originally laid down at 1 in 104: friction is computed equal to 1 in 200. Does not consider the inclination near Stockton any advantage, as the sum of the friction on the loaded and empty carriages, going to and returning from the town, is greater than it would be if the line were perfectly level?"

After Mr. Storey had given answers freely, and satisfactorily, to all questions respecting the Stockton and Darlington Railway, drawings were produced, by the president, of a patent stone-planing machine. It consists of a travelling frame, carrying a round steel-pointed instrument, and a broad chisel-shaped tool. On the motion of the frame, along the stone, the point makes the first incision, and the broad edge follows, performing a duty something like that of a smoothing plane; the other parts are more complicated, but were clearly illustrated by the drawings. Mr. Carnigie, the patentee, said, "that the machine is of Scotch invention; that five men had, in 200 days, dressed 160,000 feet of stone, reducing it, on an average, three inches; that the expense is about one halfpenny per foot; that the machine cannot be seen in London, but that some are ordered from Scotland for Plymouth; the whole weight of the machine is about six tons, and the price 150*l.*; that the travelling part weighs about two tons, but can be loaded up to eight. The stone hitherto dressed by the machine has been the Ardbrook flag, from Lord Morley's quarry. Steam power is employed. That the stone prepared by this machine can be delivered in London, fit for use, at less cost than the price of dressing it at the quarry by hand. The machine travels at the rate of about thirty feet per minute, but the speed varies according to the nature of the stone. It does not take off more than about two inches from the stone at every passage over it. The wear of steel is so trifling, that it does not form an item in the calculation of expense." A working model is on its way to London, which will probably be erected at the Adelaide Gallery.

These drawings having been fully examined and explained, a paper was read from Mr. Perkins, saying, "that a member of the Institution having stated that his (Mr. Perkins) engine was only a modification of Mr. Wolfe's engine, he begged to observe, that in Mr. Wolfe's engine the steam is always acting, on both sides of the smaller piston; whilst it acts, alternately, on the stone at every passage over it. The wear of steel is so trifling, that it does not form an item in the calculation of expense." A working model is on its way to London, which will probably be erected at the Adelaide Gallery.

that Mr. Perkins believes his engine to be entirely his own invention; that Mr. Hornblower was the first person who used the double cylinder; that Mr. Wolfe was the next. Mr. Wolfe used steam, at a higher pressure, and better boilers, than Mr. Hornblower; that Mr. Hornblower's engines were excellent in theory, but required too much and too constant attention from the stoker: that the tubes of the boiler were sometimes emptied, and were in consequence cracked by the action of the fire. That Mr. Wolfe's engines worked well, for they raised in Cornwall 57,000,000 pounds of water; whilst Bolton and Watt's engines only raised 36,000,000 pounds. But Mr. Perkins thinks there is no advantage gained in using two cylinders, so long as the pressure does not exceed 200 pounds per inch on the piston; and he himself prefers the single cylinder. Mr. Perkins thinks that the man who originates an idea, though he does not bring it to perfection, has more merit than he who afterwards takes up the same notion, and successfully adapts it to practice."

The business concluded with some remarks from Mr. Fordham, in allusion to a subject discussed on a previous evening. He said, "that steam, on being suddenly released from compression, and allowed to expand, loses part of its heat, as a wet sponge, on being pressed, emits part of the contained water; and steam does not immediately, though permitted to escape into a highly-heated chamber, recover its lost heat."

CANAL OF NICARAGUA.

The following project for carrying into execution the cutting of a canal across the isthmus of Nicaragua, in the republic of Central America, commonly called Guatemala, in order to unite the Pacific with the Atlantic Ocean, has been transmitted to us:—

In the year 1825, a company was formed in London for the purpose above mentioned; and various parties were despatched to Guatemala to make proposals to the government for carrying this important object into effect; whereupon the congress of Guatemala issued a decree, inviting the agents of such parties as were desirous of engaging in the undertaking to send in their proposals; and a contract was in consequence entered into in June, 1826, on behalf of the house of Palmer and Co. of New York, but which it appears was never ratified by the latter.

About the same period, the King of Holland deputed General Van Veer to Guatemala, in order to make the necessary surveys, and report upon the practicability of the undertaking: the General returned to Europe in 1828, having, it appears, entered into some conditional arrangement on the subject with the government of Guatemala. Subsequent political events, however, obliged the King of Holland to give up the project altogether.

Since then inquiries were directed to be made on the subject by his Majesty's Board of Control for India Affairs, the attention of the British government having been directed to the opening of a speedier communication with India.

In the event, however, of the undertaking being seriously contemplated, it would be desirable in the first instance that a general treaty of security and neutrality should be entered into by the principal commercial nations in Europe, guaranteeing a free passage through the canal, the protection of the works, and the regular payment of the tolls agreed to be levied; commissioners being appointed on their respective behalves, in order to ensure the due execution of such treaty; also that some power, ostensibly neutral, be appointed guardian of the works and their approaches, in the event of any maritime war breaking out.

No competent survey has as yet been drawn up respecting the nature and extent of the works required: the undertaking, however, according to general reports, appears to be perfectly practicable: the greatest difficulty would perhaps arise in being able to make a secure and satisfactory arrangement with the government of Guatemala, owing to the unsettled state of that country, and in securing a sufficient number of competent labourers, capable of standing in the heat of the climate.

From the most correct information that has hitherto been published, it would appear that a line of canal, not exceeding 100 English miles, would have to be cut from the Atlantic side into the lake of Nicaragua, along the course of the river St. John, which is situated in about eleven degrees north latitude; some part of this river might however be rendered navigable, while there would be no impediment in the lake, where there is plenty of water for vessels of any burthen. The direct line across, from the lake Nicaragua to the port of St. John in the Pacific Ocean, nearly a sandy plain, would not probably require a length of canal of above twenty-five miles; as, according to a survey executed by order of the Spanish government, the whole distance is stated to be about 32,000 yards, barely twenty miles: the same survey reported the height of the waters of the lake to be about 134 feet above those of the Pacific; the difference between the level of the waters of the lake and those of the Atlantic Ocean is probably somewhat greater from the number of rapids and falls in the river St. John.

Supposing, however, that the entire length of the proposed canal were 150 miles, excavated fifteen feet deep by forty broad, and that it cost upon an average 10,000*l.* sterling per mile, including the labour, materials, locks, and towing-path, the undertaking might be completed for about 1,500,000*l.* sterling. With a sufficient number of competent labourers, the canal ought to be completed within five years from the period of their commencement: the locks, stone, bricks, iron, copper, and wood-work required for the works, being sent out ready prepared from Europe.

The tolls might be fixed at half a Spanish dollar per ton on all vessels, and one per cent. on the value of all merchandise passing either way; which it is estimated ought to produce the subscribers a fair interest for the capital advanced, after providing for the requisite expenses of repairs and maintenance, independent of the immense benefit the commercial community at large would experience from the opening of a variety of new markets for their produce and manufactures, by facilitating the intercourse with the western coasts of North and South America, the East Indies, China, New Holland, and the numerous islands in the Pacific Ocean.

The money might be raised by subscription amongst the leading merchants in the principal cities of Europe and America, upon certificates issued for the same, at the rate of 8*s.* 10*d.* each; operations to be commenced so soon as a proper contract was entered into with the government of Guatemala, and that the subscriptions amounted to one-fifth of the sum required. The money to be deposited in the joint names of trustees, and the affairs entrusted to a committee of management, appointed for the purpose in London, who might correspond with the branches established in other places. It is suggested that in order to encourage subscriptions, that an interest of 2*s.* per cent. should be allowed by the governments of the respective countries where such subscriptions were raised, to be repaid from a fund to be reserved out of the tolls for that purpose.

The cost of sending out an expedition to Guatemala, composed of commissioners, to enter into a contract with the government, and persons competent to execute the requisite surveys, might amount to about 5,000*l.* sterling: and if the necessary permission and protection were obtained beforehand from the government of Guatemala, the surveys might be completed within six months after the arrival of the party at the river St. John.

IRON MINES OF BERYE, IN THE EAST INDIES.—The very low price of earth, and the great proportion of metal it contains, renders the value of iron extremely cheap, yet not so much so as from these circumstances might be expected; this is accounted for from the great scarcity of charcoal, without which nothing can be done; none can be procured nearer than twelve miles, and there it sells for half a rupee the bullock load. Sir Charles Malet visited several of the forges, the process was the same in all, and the same weight of metal was generally extracted from the same quantity of iron earth. He also procured a guide to attend him to the mines as soon as the moon arose. He set off about two o'clock, and leaving the Gwaler road on the left, traversed a cultivated plain for three miles, until he reached a village called Naigow, where he found a number of smiths working at this early hour. His guide expressing some doubts respecting the road to the mines, they readily supplied him with another, who leaving all regular paths, led him over a wild scene of hills and dales, until about five miles further: he reached the mines just as the day dawned, time enough to see several loads of iron earth drawn up by torch-light. No language can convey an adequate idea of the scene. The darkness of the morning, the gloomy lights in the deep shafts of the mines, the black dirty miners, the shouts of the drivers and noise of the bullocks, with the savage aspect of the surrounding hills, altogether produced an extraordinary spectacle. So powerful was the effect of the iron in the environs of Berye, that the compass varied nearly three points.—*Forbes's Oriental Memoirs.*

THE COLLIER BOY.—In one of the Newcastle collieries thirty-five men and forty-one boys died by suffocation, or were starved to death. One of the boys was found dead with a Bible by his side, and a tin box such as colliers use; within the lid he had contrived to engrave with the point of a nail this last message to his parent and his brother.—"Fret not, my dear mother, for we are singing the praises of God while we have time. Mother, follow God more than I did. Joseph, think of God, and be kind to poor mother."—*Merthyr Guardian.*

FOSSE TURTLE.—A petrified tortoise has lately been found in the chalk rocks on the south side of the hill called the Montagne Noire, in the commune of Issel, near Castelnau-d'Andurain, in the Nord. It

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

Sir.—I beg to offer a few solutions to the questions inserted in your valuable *Journal* of the 26th March.

QUESTION 1.—Suppose the greater wheel to be 60 feet diameter, 5 feet over the breast, with 180 buckets, each bucket to contain 16 gallons, the wheel to make 3 revolutions per minute, and to work with a 6 feet crank.

To find the horse power we have $\frac{180}{4} = 45 \times 160 = 7200 \times 120 = 864000$

$\times 3 = \frac{2592000}{35000} = 78.53$ horses: to find the maximum load we have

$6 \times 2 \times 3 = 36$, and $\frac{2592000}{36} = 72000$ lbs., the maximum load. Secondly,

for the lesser wheel we have $\frac{90}{4} = 22.5$, and $22.5 \times 80 \times 60 \times 6 = \frac{648000}{33000} = 19.63$ horses for the lesser wheel. To find the load we have $3 \times 2 \times 6 = 36$, and $\frac{648000}{36} = 18000$ lbs., the maximum load of the lesser wheel:

therefore, the greater wheel is four times the power of the lesser. Thirdly, let x = the constant velocity of the water, and y = the difference between the velocity of the water and that of the wheel; then y^2 = force of water, and $y^2 \times x - y = xy^2 - y^2 = 0$ a maximum, into fluxions, will be $2xyy - 3y^2 = 0$, and $2xy = 3y^2$ and $2x = 3y$, therefore the maximum momentum of the wheel will be, when the velocity of the water is to that of the wheel, as 3 is to 2. With regard to the centrifugal force. Let a = the velocity in feet per second, $y = 4.01$, x = diameter, and C the centrifugal force, then

the general expression will be $C = \frac{y^2}{x}$.

QUESTION 2.—84 inches width of shaft, and 48 inches width of level, then $84 - 48 = 36$, and $\frac{36}{2} = 18$, and $84 - 18 = 66$, equal the base of the horizontal right-angled triangle; then, by the 47th, 1st Book Euclid, we have $\sqrt{84^2 - 66^2} = 106.82$ the maximum hypotenuse, or the longest line that can be drawn from vertex to vertex, longitudinal through the timber; and the distance let fall from the vertex on the hypotenuse (which is the side of the square timber) is found by the above theorem to be 12.0462: hence $128.815 - 12.0462 = 116.7680 = 9$ feet 8 7-10 in the length of the timber that can be introduced into the level.

QUESTION 3.—The weight of lead ores in 1 fathom is 7824 lbs., or 3 tons 9 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs.; and the tough lead is 5232.3 lbs., or 2 tons 6 cwt. 2 qrs. 24 lbs. Weight of silver 179 oz. 6 dwt. Weight of tough lead, after deducting the silver, is 2 tons 6 cwt. 2 qrs. 15 lbs.

Value of lead	£55 19 2 <i>1</i>
Ditto silver	48 3 8 <i>2</i>
<hr/>	
104 2 11 <i>4</i>	
Deduct returning charges	12 4 6

Net value per fathom £91 18 5*4*

QUESTION 4.—The two traverses from the centre of the diagonal shaft to the vertical point, over the end or extremity of the level, will give easting 537 feet, and northing 98.4 feet. Hence we have the difference of latitude 98.75, and departure 537, given to find the course and distance; and as 537 : S. 90° : 98.75 : tangent of course 10° 25', therefore the bearing is 10° 25' north of east; and 545.7 feet will be the length of the horizontal line from the centre of the diagonal shaft to the vertical point. Hence, to find the length of the surface line, we have a right-angled triangle, whose base is 545.7, and angle of elevation 13°; as S. 77° : 545.7 : S. 13° : 126 feet the perpendicular; and as S. 77° : 545.7 :: 90° : 560.2 the length of surface line. The perpendicular of the inclined shaft is 96.41 feet, and that of the winze is 71.6 feet: therefore the distance on the surface is 93 fathoms 2 feet 2 inches; the depth of the shaft is 49 fathoms, and the bearing is 10° 25' north of east.

I am, Sir, your very obedient servant,

W.M. TONKIN.

LAUNCESTON HARBOUR AND RAILWAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

MR. EDITOR.—Your correspondent, "One of the Engineers," is perfectly correct in stating that I am totally unacquainted with the district of Launceston. That I should have subjected myself to the ire of a gentleman professionally engaged in the execution of this undertaking, cannot be a matter of surprise. My suggestions—designated, rather uncharitably, I conceive, as "egregious misstatements"—were grounded on the company's own plan, submitted, with the prospectus, to the public; on a reference to which, persons who have never visited Launceston, and I presume many of the subscribers to this enterprise have not, have a right to conclude that the Tamar is navigable up to that town.

I agree with your correspondent that a ship canal would be attended with a very great expense; so also will the proposed harbour and railroad—much greater, probably, than the public have been led to expect. Moreover, I very much doubt their "sufficiency for all practical purposes," but am glad to perceive it is now intended to continue the railroad to Plymouth. This addition to the original plan did not surely emanate from the letter containing the "egregious misstatements" put forth by Sir, your obedient servant,

April 6, 1836.

W.M. TONKIN.

A CONSTANT READER.

EAST CORNWALL MINING COMPANY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

SIR.—As an occasional correspondent, may I request the favour of the insertion of the enclosed in the columns of your forthcoming number.

I am, &c. J. BUDGE.

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE EAST CORNWALL MINING COMPANY.

GENTLEMEN.—The following is the transcript of a letter I had written for the purpose of presenting to your deputation at Callington; but on reconsideration, it occurred to me, that as I was going immediately to town, it would be a more preferable course to send it direct to the Board of Management. I am, with all due respect, gentlemen, your very obedient servant,

"JOHN BUDGE."

"London, April 12, 1836."

GENTLEMEN.—As the representatives, for the time being, of the whole body of directors of the East Cornwall Silver Mines, I beg leave to address you relative to the situation I have filled as surveyor, assayer, accountant, &c., at these mines, and in which it is your express desire that I should continue. I have availed myself of the opportunity afforded me for deliberation on this subject, and have come to the determination of withdrawing from your employ, and hereby respectfully tender my resignation.

"The courtesy I have received from you renders it imperative on me to give an explanation of the motives I am actuated by in adopting this line of conduct, and which I will endeavour to do candidly, clearly, and respectfully.

"In the first place, then, permit me to say, that the measures adopted for causing Mr. Malachy to quit the management of these mines, have been, in my opinion, most unjustifiable; and the uninterrupted means which I have necessarily had of knowing and judging of that gentleman's conduct in the superintendence, from the commencement of the undertaking to this hour, enables me to declare most positively and solemnly, that there does not exist the slightest ground for censure in any part of his conduct; but, on the contrary, he is justly entitled to the highest respect and approbation of every proprietor. If, then, gentlemen, you can be so regardless of complaint, to dismiss most abruptly and unwarrantably the only person in the kingdom who is fully qualified to conduct the operations, what guarantee, allow me to ask, can a humble individual like myself obtain that I shall not experience similar treatment at your hands?

"From the long and extensive practice I have had, and the laborious application I have used in every branch of silver mining in particular, (and especially as I have been an agent at the East Cornwall mines during the whole course of her working, as well under the original company as the present,) I am convinced, in my own judgment at least, that (with the exception of your late manager) there is not a man to be found so capable of conducting these mines as myself. This being my conviction, I cannot submit to come under the control of parties who, from want of

experience, are totally unfit (and are themselves fully conscious of the fact), to superintend the working of this adventure, however great their attainments may be in tin, lead and copper mining; and I make this declaration without the most remote intention of contending the abilities of the parties in question, for whom I entertain a high respect and sincere regard; but I beg to be allowed to state a fact, which you are in some measure aware of, that there is no similarity between a silver lode and any other; and a miner will require more years to obtain a knowledge of the indications, quality, peculiarities, and produce of a silver lode, (and judicious treatment of the multifarious ores,) than of all other mineral or metallic lodes that can be enumerated.

"I conclude therefore by expressing the strong and painful conviction now on my mind, that the ill-advised course you have taken will, in all probability, be the lamentable cause of the East Cornwall speculation becoming a total failure. I remain, with sincere desire for the prosperity of the mine, gentlemen, your obedient servant, "JOHN BUDGE."

"Callington, April 8, 1836."

[We insert our correspondent's communication. We must say we think it hastily written and ill-judged, in which we know he will agree with us when he sees it in type. There is a degree of independence which all agents should maintain, but they may go a step too far—our friend will take this in its proper sense, and while we admit his ability, will pardon us for not going to the same extent as regards discretion.—ED. M. J.]

GEOLOGY—THEORY OF THE CREATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

SIR.—In former times the advocate of the enclosed theory of the creation of man would have been charged with delusion. Geology, however, has of late made such rapid strides, that, in the present day, none but the most ignorant think of interpreting literally the writings of the inspired historian, as recorded in the first page of *Holy Writ*.

The accompanying remarks appear to me to be interesting, as conveying the opinion of the most eminent geologists of the age. Possibly you will think them deserving a place in your valuable *Journal*. D.

[We insert the letter of our correspondent and the observations referred to, without offering any opinion thereon.—ED. M. J.]

GEOLOGY—THEORY OF THE CREATION.—The constitution of this world does not look like a system of optimism. It appears to be arranged in all its departments, on the principle of slow and progressive improvement. Physical nature itself has undergone many revolutions, and apparently has constantly advanced. Geology seems to show a distinct preparation of it for successive orders of living beings, rising higher and higher in the scale of intelligence and organization, until man appeared. Astronomical deductions and actual measures by triangulation prove, that the globe is an oblate spheroid, flattened at the poles; and this form we know, by strict mathematical demonstrations, is precisely the one which a fluid body, revolving round its axis, and become solid at its surface by the slow dissipation of its heat, or other causes, would assume. The globe, in the first state in which the imagination can venture to consider it, appears to have been a fluid mass, with an immense atmosphere, revolving in space round the sun. By its cooling, a portion of its atmosphere was probably condensed into water, which occupied part of its surface. In this state, no forms of life, such as now belong to our system, could have inhabited it. The crystalline rocks, or, as they are called by geologists, primary rocks, which contain no vestiges of a former order of things, were the result of the first consolidation on its surface. Upon the further cooling, the water, which, more or less, had covered it, contracted; depositions took place; shell-fish and coral insects were created, and began their labours. Islands appeared in the midst of the ocean, raised from the deep by the productive energies of millions of cophites. These islands became covered with vegetables fitted to bear a high temperature, such as palms, and various species of plants, such as now exist in the hottest parts of the world. The submarginal rocks of these new formations of land became covered with aquatic vegetables, on which various species of shell-fish and common fishes found their nourishment. As the temperature of the globe became lower, species of the oviparous reptiles appear to have been created to inhabit it; and the turtle, crocodile, and various gigantic animals of the saurian (lizard) kind seem to have haunted the bays and waters of the primitive lands. But, in this state of things, there appears to have been no order of events similar to the present. Immense volcanic explosions seem to have taken place, accompanied by elevations and depressions of the surface of the globe, producing mountains, and causing new and extensive depositions from the primitive ocean. The remains of living beings, plants, fishes, birds, and oviparous reptiles are found in the strata of rocks, which are the monuments and evidence of these changes. When these revolutions became less frequent, and the globe became still more cooled, and inequalities of temperature were established by means of the mountain chains, more perfect animals became its inhabitants, such as the mammoth, megatherium, and gigantic hyena, many of which have become extinct. Five successive races of animals appear to have been created and swept away by the physical revolutions of the globe, before the system of things became so permanent as to fit the world for man. In none of these formations, whether secondary, tertiary, or diluvial, have the fossil remains of man, or any of his works, been discovered. At last, man was created, and since that period there has been little alteration in the physical circumstances of the globe. In all these various formations, the cephalopods (or the dung of the saurian reptiles in the fossil state, exhibiting scales of fishes and other traces of the prey which they had devoured) form records of warfare waged by successive generations of inhabitants of our planet on one another; and the general law of nature, which bids all to eat and be eaten in their turn, is shown to have been co-extensive with animal existence upon our globe, the carnivora in each period of the world's history, fulfilling their destined office, to check excess in the progress of life, and maintain the balance of creation. The more we discover of creation, the more conspicuously does uniformity of design appear to pervade its every department. We perceive here the physical world gradually improved and prepared for man.

I am, Sir, your very obedient servant,

W.M. TONKIN.

SPECULATION IN LIVERPOOL.

To show to what an extent the mania for speculation has arrived at in Liverpool, we subjoin a list of the companies at present forming, with their nominal and subscribed capital, number of shares and deposits. What will be the upshot of the madness that seems to prevail through all classes for the formation of joint-stock companies of every description, time alone will show; but such the infatuation with which schemes are embarked in, and the avidity with which shares are taken in any newly-announced concern, that where prospectuses have announced that only 6,000 or 10,000 shares would be issued, as many as 17,000 to 24,000 have been applied for; and so soon as the allotments are made, the favoured and fortunate individual holding the scrip can instantly dispose of his shares at a premium. Where 1s. deposit has been paid, the shares have sold for 20s. to 35s., and 1d. deposits for 8d. and 10d. And this, it will be observed, in exclusive of our General Liverpool List of Prices of Shares, which will be found in the last page.

Name.	Capital.	Val. of Shares.	No. of Shares.	Dep.
Arade Company	£80,000	£50	1,600	5
Coal Company—Liverp. and Manchester	50,000	10	5,000	1
Timber and Saw Mill	100,000	10	10,000	1
Liverpool Fish	25,000	5	5,000	1
Liverpool and Manchester Fish	50,000	5	10,000	1
Liverpool Ale and Porter Brewery	200,000	20	10,000	1
Liverpool United Licensed Victuallers' Ale and Porter Brewery Company	150,000	10	15,000	1
Royal Rock Ferry	35,000	20	1,750	1
Newspaper, Daily—Prospect. not yet out.	...	...	...	...
Liverpool Fire and Life	2,000,000	20	100,000	1
750,000	50	15,000	1	
St. George's Harbour and Railway	900,000	50	4,000	1
Chester and Birkenhead Railway	300,000	50	6,000	2
Chester Junction ditto	50,000	10	5,000	2
Steam Tug Towing Company	75,000	25	3,000	1
St. Geo. Chan. Steam, Pilot, & Tow. do.	300,000	10	30,000	1
Harrington Dock and Improvement Co.	300,000	100	2,000	10
Royal Bank of Liverpool	2,000,000	2000	1,000	100
Imperial Bank	9,000,000	...	...	...
Liverpool Bank—not yet out	...	...	...	...
Isle of Man Bank	250,000	50	5,000	1
South Lancashire Banking Company	500,000	10	50,000	1
United Trades' Bank	250,000	10	25,000	1
Tradesmen's Bank	...	...	...	...
North and South Wales Bank	...	...	...	...
Tobacco and Snuff Company—not yet out.	...	...	...	...

RAILWAYS.—The Croydon Canal Company have been awarded 40,250/- as compensation for the injury done their buildings and land in Surrey and Kent by the Croydon Railway Company.

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THURSDAY, APRIL 14.—The Birmingham and Gloucester Railway Bill was read a second time.—The Municipal Act Amendment Bill was referred to a Committee.

FRIDAY.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE moved that the resolutions of the Commons regarding Railway Bills be adopted; and he further proposed that evidence should be taken by the Commons' orders had been complied with. The motion was agreed to, after some discussion, and the additional resolution was printed for the purpose of consideration on Monday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, APRIL 11.—A petition was presented against the Eastern Railway Bill.—The Dundee and Newtyle Railway Bill was read a second time.—The Newport and Swansea Harbour Bills were read a second time.

TUESDAY.—Petitions were presented against the Glasgow Railway Bill; the Great Union Railway Bill; the Grand Junction Railway Bill; the London and Cambridge Railway Bill; the Cheltenham Railway Bill; and the Greenwich Pier Bill.

WEDNESDAY.—Petitions were presented against the Great Northern Railway; Hennig's Brighton Railway; Midland Counties Railway; Eastern and Northern Railway; Glasgow and Forfar Railway.

THURSDAY.—Petitions were presented against the South Durham Bill; the South Eastern Railway Bill; the Midland Counties Railway Bill; and the Great Northern Railway Bill.

FRIDAY.—The second reading of the Dover Harbour Bill was deferred, to afford the opportunity of moving for a Select Committee on the subject. The Mutiny Bill and the Marine Mutiny Bill were read a third time and passed; as was the abolition of the Slavery (Jamaica) Bill.

USES OF SLATE.—Slate is becoming daily more extensively into use, it being employed for paving the area in front of the new National Gallery, and also for church-yard memorials, in place of stone. It appears from a paper read at a recent meeting of the members of the Architectural Society, that a slab of Welsh slate, one inch in thickness, is equal in strength to a piece of Yorkshire stone of six inches, or of Caithness or Valentia stone of two inches in thickness.—Times.

DUNSTANVILLE MEMORIAL.—TENDERS.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Committee will, at the ROYAL INSTITUTION, TRURO, on THURSDAY, the 21st inst., at TWELVE o'clock, receive TENDERS for the erection of the proposed Memorial on Carbis.

The plans and specifications may be inspected at the Savings' Bank, Truro, between the hours of Nine and Five o'clock.

The Tenders must be delivered, sealed, to the Chairman of the Committee, at their Meeting, on the 21st of April, instant, by the party tendering, or by

the upper part of the series clays and soft carbonaceous sandstones predominate; in the middle, argillaceous sandstones and indurated clays; and in the lower, hard finely-grained sandstones, occasionally micaceous. The beds of coal in the upper division of the series are widely separated, and extremely irregular; but in the lower they are thick, nearer together, and persistent throughout the whole field.

At different pits the beds vary greatly in number and thickness, in consequence of the thinning out of some and the interpolation of others; and the memoir contains a valuable series of sectional lists, obtained from the ground bailiffs. The following gives an account of the number of beds of coal at each of the principal pits, and the aggregate thickness.

Yds.	ft.	Inch.	No. of beds.	Yds.	ft.	Inch.	No. of beds.
Hadley	15	0	16	Dawley	14	0	16
Sned's hill	14	2	2	Lightmoor	13	2	0
Malinslee	11	0	10	Madeley	10	2	10
Langley	11	2	6	Broseley	7	0	9

At these points the coal measures are fully developed; and consequently the number and thickness in the coal strata does not arise from a diminution of the system, but in some cases may be accounted for, by the minor beds not having been deemed worthy of notice.

Next in importance to the beds of coal are the layers of argillaceous carbonate of iron. This valuable ore generally occurs in flattened nodules, constituting regular seams, which are distinguished by the names of Pennystone, the Chance stone, the Ball stone, the Ragged Robins, &c. Some of these layers extend throughout the field, but others are of local occurrence; and the aggregate number in a pit varies from two to seven. They are generally imbedded in shale, but occasionally in sandstone. In some parts of the district, and situated near the top of the series, is a bed of freshwater limestone.

The petroleum or tar spring for which Coalbrook Dale has so long been celebrated, issues from a thick bed of sandstone in the upper part of the coal measures. It yielded formerly more than a hogshead a-day, but produces now only a few gallons a-week. Another spring has been discovered, and petroleum is frequently found, to some extent, in working the coal. Titanium has been produced in considerable abundance in the iron furnaces. It often occurs in crystals of great beauty, but principally in amorphous masses. On examining some portions of hearth-stones belonging to a furnace which had been at work nine or ten years, Mr. Prestwich discovered lumps of titanium as large as a marble, cemented by a small quantity of iron. With respect to the original state of the metal he offers no remarks, but he says that in analysing some crystals of zinc, obtained from nodules of ironstone, he detected titanic acid.

The fossils contained in the coal measures are of great interest, as they occur in considerable abundance, and consist not only of terrestrial plants and freshwater shells, but also of marine testacea and other animals. On comparing this curious association of remains, so decidedly different in habits, with similar accumulations, Mr. Prestwich dissents from the opinion that the alternations of beds containing fluviatile shells with others in which marine preponderate, prove as many elevations and subsidences in the district as there are changes in the nature of the exuviae. On the contrary, he conceives that the phenomena may be explained by supposing that the coal measures were accumulated in an estuary occasionally subjected to considerable freshes from a large river.

The following is a brief summary of the facts detailed in the paper:—

The lowest strata contain only terrestrial plants and freshwater shells. Then succeeds a bed of argillaceous carbonate of iron, "the penny ironstone," enclosing a few vegetable remains and freshwater shells, but great abundance of marine testacea and remains of fishes and trilobites.

Next occurs a bed of sandstone, abounding in terrestrial plants of the most luxuriant growth; followed by strata of coal, sandstone and shale, containing shells, apparently, of the genus *Unio*.

These beds are overlaid by a stratum of hard, micaceous shale, enclosing ironstone nodules, with remains of fishes, the same as those in the Pennystone measures, plants, freshwater shells, and animals allied to trilobites.

The succeeding beds, amounting to many yards in thickness, afford only vegetable remains and freshwater shells.

The chance pennystone, the highest layer of ironstone, next occurs, and encloses, in great abundance, marine shells (*Producta scabrida*).

The uppermost strata of the coal series contain only plants.

In concluding this portion of his memoir the author offers a few remarks on the irregularity of the distribution of fossils in the same bed in different parts of the field, and of the greater uniformity of their occurrence in the lower than in the upper portion of the series.

The paper was illustrated by numerous sections and diagrams, and an extensive series of fossils, which was presented to the Museum of the Society.

WHEAL BROTHERS MINING COMPANY.

A meeting of the shareholders in the company was held, pursuant to advertisement, at the City of London Tavern, on Thursday, 14th inst., at one o'clock;

EDWARD BLOUNT, Esq., in the Chair.

The meeting was very numerously attended, there being, we should suppose, from one hundred to one hundred and twenty present. Much excitement prevailed throughout the meeting, and the various rumours which have of late been put in circulation tended to give a peculiar interest to the proceedings.

The chairman, previous to the reading of the report, briefly addressed the meeting, to the effect that the directors courted every inquiry, and that Mr. Malachy, who was present, was ready to answer any questions which might be proposed to him, and to afford every information touching the operations and prospects of the undertaking in which they were embarked. The chairman further observed that it was a special meeting, and that the proceedings of the day must therefore be necessarily confined to the specific objects.

The solicitor of the company having read the advertisement from the MINING JOURNAL convening the meeting, proceeded to read the following

REPORT.

The directors of the Wheal Brothers mine have felt it to be their duty to call this meeting of the shareholders for the purpose of laying before them a report of the present state and prospects of the mine, and a statement of the accounts of the company from its commencement in July, 1835, to the 31st of March last, and to explain the reasons for the postponement of the dividend for the three months last past.

Dividends at the rate of 1*st*. per cent. on the capital of 100,000*l.* for the months of April, May, June, July, August, and September last have been duly paid, amounting in the whole to 9,000*l.*, and the directors feel it due to the shareholders candidly to state that a portion of that amount was advanced by Mr. Malachy the manager, and a large shareholder in the company, on security of ores, and on a representation to the directors that the produce of the mine, then already in hand, was amply sufficient for the purpose, though it afterwards appeared deficient to the extent of 1,500*l.* the amount of the last monthly dividend, and on a representation by him that it was not advisable to dispose of the ore until the Tamar Smelting company, then forming in the immediate neighbourhood of the mine, should be in a state to receive it. The terms required by them were such, that although the ores had been actually sent to that Smelting Company, Mr. Malachy did not feel himself justified on behalf of the shareholders in accepting their terms, and thus some delay occurred in the disposal of the ores, and inasmuch as the dividend had been then advertised, Mr. Malachy proposed to advance the money to prevent disappointment to the shareholders.

It appeared to the directors from the then state of the works, and looking to the prospects of the mine, that it would be better in future to pay the dividends quarterly instead of monthly, and they announced their intention in December last of thenceforth paying them quarterly.

The directors now beg to refer the shareholders to the report of Captain Cocking, of Gunnis' Lake Mine, under Thomas Yeage, Esq., and Captain Thapass Penluna, the manager of several mines in the Callington district, both wholly unconnected with the Wheal Brothers Mine, well experienced in silver mining for upwards of twenty years, whom they have thought fit right for the satisfaction of the shareholders to call in for a report upon the present state of the mine, and they also refer to Mr. Malachy for an explanation of the causes which have for several months last past impeded the raising of ore sufficient to meet the dividends which the directors hoped would have been forthcoming on the 31st of last month.

The directors, however, feel great satisfaction in being able to assure the proprietors, on reference to the report of the mine, and to Mr. Malachy's opinion that the prospects originally held out to them are by no means diminished, and that the delay in the receipt of their dividends is only temporary, the state of the mine, according to such report, giving the fullest assurance of a speedy and large amount of produce, and the directors are happy to say that Mr. Malachy is of opinion that the raisings of ore are now sufficient to pay the monthly cost of working.

The directors regret that unfounded reports, circulated in the neighbourhood of the mine, and confirmed in a provincial journal, as to the result of the proceedings in Chancery, instituted against Mr. Malachy and the directors, by an individual putting forth a claim to an interest in the mine, and also to a claim preferred by the Duchy of Cornwall to the dues which are paid to Mr. Worth, as owner of the mine, as well as various other unfounded rumours, have produced a temporary depression in the value of the shares, and an opinion unfavourable to the mine itself. These reports no doubt emanated from interested parties, and the directors have much pleasure in stating, that they are assured by their legal adviser, that the claim to an interest in the mine by the party above alluded to, and who has attempted to enforce it by an appeal to the Court of Chancery, can in no event affect the interest of any of the shareholders, it being a question solely concerning Mr. Malachy, who has every confidence in the successful resistance of the claim: and with regard to the claim of the Duchy of Cornwall, the directors are also advised that the interest of the shareholders cannot be prejudiced by it, that question being solely between Mr. Worth, the landlord of the mine, and the Duchy.

The directors beg to invite the attention of the shareholders to the account of expenses of working the mine, and the produce which has already been realised, and the amount of ore now in hand to meet the advances which the manager has made (in anticipation of the produce of the mine) to carry on the workings, the sinking of a new engine-shaft, and the erection of a new and powerful water-wheel.

Whilst the directors regret that temporary and unavoidable circumstances, incident to all mining concerns, have occurred to prevent the immediate realization of produce sufficient to continue the regular payment of the dividends, and particularly the expense attending the sinking of the new engine-shaft, and the erection of the water-wheel, which are both very important objects as regards the future operations of the mine, and also considering the unfavourable state of the weather for sampling the ores, yet they are justified in referring to the confident opinion of Mr. Malachy that in three months from the present time the mine will be in a condition not only to pay all arrears of dividends, but to continue them up to that time, and in sure payment hereafter.

EDWARD BLOUNT, Chairman.

GENTLEMEN.—In compliance with your request that I should explain to you, for the information of the shareholders, the reason why sufficient silver ore has not been raised from the mine to enable you from its proceeds to pay the dividends at the time appointed, I beg leave to say that in the month of June last it was in contemplation to have worked the mine by sinking the valley-shaft on the course of the lode by the power of the old water-wheel.

The inadequate supply of water from the very dry season, in addition to the difficulties arising from the contracted state of the shaft, and its being also on an underlay, compelled me to abandon this intention, and left me no alternative but to resume the sinking of the new engine-shaft, which being down twenty fathoms would enable me, by sinking ten fathoms more, to drive a cross-cut to intersect the lode at the thirty fathoms level.

The propriety of this arrangement cannot but be approved of by every practical miner, and will be apparent to all when it is understood that there will be nothing in future to prevent the uninterrupted operations on the lode and the continued raising of silver ore, and that whilst the lode is being explored at the thirty fathoms level east and west from the cross-cut the shaft will be sinking to a greater depth, and is now down to the forty fathoms level, and as the cross-cut from this depth will be only four fathoms, we shall soon be exploring at this level also on the course of the lode, and prosecute the shaft to the fifty fathoms below the adit, where the same will completely intersect the lode. These advantages could not have been obtained by carrying into effect the plan originally contemplated, even had a sufficiency of water-power enabled such to have been done.

It is presumed that enough has been said to satisfy all reasonable and intelligent men that every thing has been done for the interest of the company, and I feel confident that three months hence I shall have the satisfaction of proving the correctness of my judgment, and the realization of your most sanguine expectations.

[The report of Messrs. Cocking and Penluna, with Mr. Malachy's letter accompanying the same, we must necessarily defer until next week.]

DISBURSEMENTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
1835.		1825.	
March, cost	176 1 6	March, ores sold	2000 4 0
April	197 6 9	April	1817 14 0
May	193 16 0	May	2029 14 8
June	218 4 29		
July	269 19 4		
August	242 7 7		
September	294 7 11		
		1592 3 94	5847 12 8
Tosix DIV. to end of Sept.	9000 0 0	Dressed ores on hand 100 t.	3000 0 0
To Lord's dues	730 19 1	Undressed do.	1000 0 0
			9847 12 8
		By balance	1478 10 23
			11,223 2 104

The report and accounts having been read, Mr. Grout, one of the directors, rose for the purpose of affording to the meeting an opportunity of understanding the accounts, and accordingly submitted the following statements:—the amount of ores sold up to 31st December was about 5,800*l.*, those on hand were estimated at 4,000*l.*, making in all 9,800*l.*; from which was to be deducted the dues of one-eighth, or 1,225*l.*, leaving net value of ores raised 8,575*l.*; while on the other side were the following items:—dividends 9,000*l.*, disbursements on the mine, say 3,000*l.*, making in all 12,000*l.*; and deducting from which the value of the ores raised, there remained a deficit of 3,480*l.* 8s. 1d. Mr. Grout having referred to the chairman as to the accuracy of this statement, we understood that generally to assent to its correctness.

A shareholder then rose for the purpose of putting some pertinent and impertinent questions to Mr. Malachy, not only as to the state of the mine and the depth to which the shaft had been sunk, in the course of which he evidently had got out of his own depth, but with reference to reports which affected Mr. Malachy's character. The answers given by Mr. Malachy gave evident satisfaction to the meeting, he declaring that at that moment he held upwards of 1,300 shares in the company, and that he was ready to take the ores at the valuation (4,000*l.*) set on them by him. These questions and answers led to a very animated, and, we may add, angry discussion between Mr. Grout and Mr. Malachy, and it was only the urbanity and good temper of the chairman which quelled this unpleasant interruption of the proceedings of the day.

From the statements made by Mr. Malachy and Captain Ambrose Bray, who was present, it appeared that the rich sink going down from the twenty fathom level, and which they had been compelled to abandon, being "drowned out," was equally rich for silver at the moment of its temporary abandonment as at any former period: indeed, added Captain Bray, the stones of silver taken from the bottom of the sink, when under water, were richer than any he had before seen.

It may be necessary here to observe, that this point of the workings remains at present untouched, the thirty fathom level not having been driven to a sufficient extent to drain this part of the mine. From the statements made by Mr. Malachy, we gathered, that from this part of the lode 800*l.* worth of silver was raised in two days; and that, in driving five fathoms on the lode at the twenty fathom level, they extracted at least 2,800*l.* worth of silver, taking the level "six foot" high; and from the appearance of the lode going down, he estimated the value of the ore which would be extracted, between the twenty and thirty fathom level, at that point, at not less than 20,000*l.*

We have purposely avoided advertizing to that bone of contention the "Tamar Smelting Company," evincing, as we consider, more good taste in so doing than did the gentlemen who took part in the discussion. It, however, served one end, it distracted the attention of the meeting from which should have formed its most important feature—the accounts submitted, and the explanations which should have been afforded with respect to the dividends declared—and which were perfectly unjustifiable, if we read the accounts rightly.

That the concern is good in itself we can entertain no doubt; but the directors must be more vigilant.

It is only due to the board of directors, however, to state, that from the declaration of the chairman, it appeared they had not trafficked in shares, holding the number which they had originally taken, and that they had received no remuneration for their services. Mr. Grout in the course of the proceedings, however, stated that he had given directions to sell the whole of his shares, but which it appeared arose from causes totally unconnected with the value of the mine, or the estimation in which he might hold it.

The following resolutions were carried:—

That the thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Malachy for having sent the ore to be smelted at Sheffield, and that he is entitled to the full confidence of the shareholders.

That the report now read, with the statement of accounts and documents, be printed for the use of the shareholders, together with the resolution of thanks to, and confidence in, Mr. Malachy.

The thanks of the meeting were then given to Edward Blount, Esq., for his able and impartial conduct in the chair.

MINING CORRESPONDENCE.

ENGLISH MINES.

PERRAN CONSOLS MINING COMPANY.

April 11.—The south branch of Mudge's lode (which I mentioned last week) appears now to be a distinct or side lode, on it we have a good prospect, and are now driving southward from Mudge's in two other places at adit level to cut it farther west. The ends of our levels are much the same as last week. The wood-work is put on the engine-house, and are ready for the engine materials.

J. GRAPES.

TAMAR SILVER LEAD MINING COMPANY.

April 11.—We have had a great deal of trouble in clearing the shaft and cutting ground since my last report. We are still clearing the levels mentioned therein, but our progress will be retarded for want of the means of drawing away the stuff. The Chydour, with our castings from Hayle, is expected to be here in two or three days, and we hope to get the steam-whim to work very shortly.

THOMAS PETHERICK.

REDMOOR CONSOLS MINING COMPANY.

April 11.—The lead lode at the thirty fathoms level at Johnson's shaft continues promising and productive, as noticed in my last report, and the twenty fathom level driving north on it is very much improved; it is nearly one foot wide, yielding about one ton of very good silver lead ore per fathom. In sinking the engine-shaft, and in driving the twenty fathom level south from it, we have penetrated the elvan course, and have intersected a stratum of beautiful killas. We are extending the adit level from the cross-cut (about seventy fathoms north of Trelease's lode) east, on a very regular and kindly lode, which has produced some very good stones of tin ore.

WILLIAM PETHERICK.

EAST CORNWALL SILVER MINING COMPANY.

April 11.—Being desired by the deputation from the board to undertake the direction of these mines, I have to report that the operations which were noticed in last week's report are being proceeded with satisfactorily. We have to-day advice of the shipments at Hayle of the remaining castings for the plunger-lift, which will be fixed with as little delay as possible on their arrival.

T. PETHERICK.

POLBRENN MINING COMPANY.

April 9.—Our various operations in this mine are going on with as much dispatch and in every respect so favourably as we can reasonably anticipate, with the exception of the engine, which I regret to say is not in that forward state I could wish, owing to the delay of the founders in not forwarding the necessary castings. I have the satisfaction of saying that the discovery at the flat-rod engine-shaft (so far as we can ascertain) is of a valuable description; we consider it at present worth 100*l.* per fathom.

R. ROWE, Sen.

SOUTH WHEAL LEISURE MINING COMPANY.

April 9.—I have to inform you this week, that the walls of the engine-house are completed. At Landrew we have determined to clear some other old workings on the different lodes situated about seventy fathoms east of the part which we have already cleared, by so doing we shall be better able to form a more correct opinion of what may be necessary for future operations.

R. ROWE, Jun.

CORNWALL GREAT UNITED MINES.

Eastern District, April 9.—I write to say that next Saturday is our pay day. Every thing here is looking so very favourable, that I apprehend, by brisk work for a week or so, you will receive such reports as you could scarcely anticipate, except you were to see the stones of tin now on the table before me, which were taken out of Wheal Prosper adit (west) last night, from a lode about four feet wide, far superior to any thing we have had before, and with every probability of continuance, as we are now drawing near the old men's great workings on the backs of the lodes. Wheal Jenkins is also producing an immense quantity of tin stuff of such superior quality, that it leaves this no longer an adventure, in my opinion, for we only want additional stamps to make very considerable returns immediately.

THOMAS KITTOE.

BRITISH TIN MINING COMPANY.

Great Wheal Venture, April 11.—The middle lode is much the same as last reported, in size and quality. In stopping the back east we find the lode to be making down under the clay, which you have been in some former reports called to notice. We shall suspend stopping the back for the time, and commence driving the end on the course of the lode. By four men set to-day two fathoms, at 2*t*. 12*s*. 6*d*. per fathom, this will give in length of back, and I think will produce tin stuff sufficient to keep our mills to work. No particular change has taken place in any of the ends since my last report. Our sump men are persevering with their bargain, although the ground at present is making much against us.

ST. HILARY MINING COMPANY.

Wheal Leeds, April 9.—Captain William Lean reports that the new engine is sinking under the thirty fathoms level to the forty; there is at present a hard floor of spar in the shaft, such as we have met with before; there is now only nine fathoms to sink to get to the ore bottom at the forty fathom level; they will cross-cut south at the thirty without delay, and unwater all the old workings from the twenty to that level. The new whim-shaft sinking west of the engine-shaft to the twenty for ventilating and working that part of the mine to advantage, is already down between eighteen and nineteen fathoms; a flue can branch has crossed the twenty fathom end, driving east, and the ground is confused, but the lode, in appearance, improved; the ground in the cross-cut driving south at the twenty, to cut the south lode, is improved; the men had 80*s*. per fathom, they have now 65*s*. only. The tributaries continue to make wages.

C. N. BEATER.

CARN GREY MINING COMPANY.

April 9.—In sinking under the twelve fathom level in the tin ground, we find that it dips fast in a westerly direction, and our twenty-two fathom level is not yet under it. We are raising the stuff from the winze, and some of it is very good work. The appearances of Pitt's lode are very favourable; we are now driving by the side of it, and having opened it a sufficient distance, we shall then take down the lode, and will duly report its quality. We are progressing as fast as possible in the deep adit towards Elder's lode, and, in order to prove it more effectually, two men are now driving in the eastern part to cut it in that direction. The lobby for the stamps is complete, and we shall begin to heave in the wheel in a few days.

W. BROWNE.

ALBION MINING COMPANY.

April 12.—Wheal Liberty engine-shaft is sunk under the sixty fathom level about seven feet; we find the lode to be large and kindly, producing large and good stones of ore. The lodes in the sixty fathom levels east and west from shaft is still very large at this time, but ore yielding little or no ore. The forty-seven east on the caunter produces about half a ton per fathom. The lode in the forty east on the caunter is about fourteen inches wide, ores imbedded in soft channel of ground. The forty east and west from shaft, each of these ends produce a little ore, but not rich. We have commenced sinking the engine-shaft under the fifty-four fathom level at Wheal Mithian; have not taken down the lode as yet, the appearances of which will be given in our next. In the ten fathom level west from shaft on the south lode, we have a leader of mundic, five inches wide up and down the end, the same level east from shaft lode is about eighteen inches wide.

JOHN MIDDLETON.

WEST WHEAL BROTHERS MINING COMPANY.

April 9.—The silver lode at the twenty fathom level in Lowe's shaft has been extended west eight feet and east four. It still continues from eighteen to twenty inches wide, composed of white iron, fluecan, &c. Samples have been assayed, producing 2,240 ounces of silver per ton. When the level is driven a few fathoms east and west, we shall be in a situation to break down the backs; no doubt between the eleven and twenty fathom levels considerable quantities of rich ore will be raised. The sinking of Lowe's shaft is resumed, which I intend to prosecute with all possible speed, until it intersects the silver lode. The eleven fathom level will be driven when the water is drained, as a communication shall be made from thence to the twenty at the earliest convenience. The copper lode in the twenty-three fathom level going west in four feet wide, with stones of copper and tin very promising. We are taking down a piece of ground in the level going east, to ascertain the size and quality of the north branch. Since writing the above, Thomas Knotwell has tested a sample of the fluecan and soft parts of the lode, and the produce is 298 ounces per ton. I have sent some specimens by the coach.—N.B. An average sample of the stones sent to London has been assayed by Mr. Johnson, of Malden-lane, and the produce is 2,531 oz. 15 dwt. of silver per ton.

JAMES CARPENTER.

BRITISH COPPER MINING COMPANY.

Great Wheal Charlotte Mine, April 13.—The lode in the fifty-two west is from six to eight feet big, yielding from two to three tons per fathom. In the back over the end the lode is six feet wide, producing two tons of ore per fathom. The lode in the fifty-two fathom level east is much the same as last week, but in the back over the end it has not only improved in quality, but speedier and more easily broken. The lode in the forty-two east is from six to nine feet wide, yielding good work, improved during the last week. The lode in twenty-two fathom level west is three feet wide, leader from four to six inches big, the remainder good work. The other parts of the mine are much the same as last week. I have a mind to sample 200 tons or more next Tuesday week, but in the present state of the work cannot tell to twenty or thirty tons how much we shall be able to sample.

TRELEIGH CONSOLS MINING COMPANY.

April 9.—In our adit level on the north lode the end is just as named in my last report, but in the back of this level the lode is greatly improved, it is eighteen inches wide, all saving work; in other places there is no alteration, the engine-shaft men have nearly completed the plot at the ten fathom level, when I intend putting to cross-cut for Maria lode in this place, and fix the house water-lift from deep adit. The masons are getting on with the building, and hope to have the roof on in a fortnight. We have not received any part of the engines, but are expecting them every day.

WILLIAM SINCOCK.

FOREIGN MINES.

IMPERIAL BRAZILIAN MINING COMPANY.

[Continued from No. 33.]

Gongo Soco, Dec. 18, 1835.—In presenting you our report of the last ten days' work carried on in this mine, we regret that we have to state that the veins continue hitherto poor. A rise has been completed to the fourteen from the twenty-one fathom level, west of Aveline's shaft. We have had a few runs in the mine, and in the deep adit during the late rains, on which account very little has been done in the forty-eight cross-cut, the men having been removed to secure the adit, which is not as yet completed, and we are obliged to suspend our workings in the seven fathom level and in the back of the same at Macfarlane's and John's shafts until the rainy season is over.

WILLIAM TREGOWEN, N. HARRIS, W. BRAY.

Gongo Soco, Jan. 19, 1836.—We are not favoured with any intelligence from England since we last had the honour to address you on the 9th inst., whereof the foregoing is a duplicate. We rejoice to find that a little gold appeared from the mine, but we are not given to understand that there is any great hope of the continuance of such produce; we trust that the mine report may say something on the subject.

JOHN MORGAN, R. HICKSON.

Rio de Janeiro, Feb. 6.—We wait upon you with duplicate of our respects of the 23rd inst., per Three Sisters, and though the present opportunity is not thought to be a good one, we avail ourselves of it to announce to you the arrival of Mr. Hammond from Gongo Soco on the 27th inst., with 96 lbs. 4 oz. 10 dwt. of gold dust, and a barrel of mundic, which we are to forward to you by the first good opportunity. We look hourly for the Nightingale Packet.

NAYLOR, BROTHERS AND CO.

Rio de Janeiro, Feb. 6.—We confirm, and beg your reference to the annexed copy of our respects of the 30th ult., and assure without your favour, the Nightingale Packet being still out, and had not reached Bahia on the 26th ult. We enclose the committee's dispatch of the 19th ult., and shall ship the gold brought by Mr. Hammond in the British merchant brig, Urania, Captain Berry, for Cowes; we expect our next letter will be by the Urania, and we have the honour to be, &c. NAYLOR, BROTHERS AND CO.

Gongo Soco, Jan. 9.—The foregoing is a copy of our letter, since which date we have been honoured with your dispatch of the 3rd November. We observe with pleasure the appointment of your chief commissioner, George N. Daves, Esq., and note that he was to leave England in the beginning of December, we consequently hope to see him at Gongo next month. We beg to assure you that your call upon us shall not be disregarded, and you may rely on our cheerful endeavours to afford Mr. Daves every assistance and information in our power towards establishing him in that position which will give him a speedy insight into the affairs of the association, and which we shall view as a gratifying duty we are bound to perform. We have the gold to the 31st December, 120 lbs. 6 oz., packed ready for the Troop, which is to

leave this to-morrow morning, under the charge of Mr. Hammond, for Rio, where we trust it will arrive in safety about the 26th inst. We forward by the Troop a cask with about half a cwt. of mundic from Cata Preta, as requested in your letter of the 1st September last. We are exceedingly sorry to state that on the morning of the 2nd inst. Skerrett's shaft fell in, dragging with it an extent of several fathoms of the surface surrounding it, &c. &c., which will we trust be fully stated to you by the chief mine captain in his report; we understand that the idea of re-opening it was wholly abandoned. Yet in mentioning this calamity, we have one very consoling observation to add, that only the night before men were working in the shaft, and although the accident happened at a time in the morning (seven o'clock) when a great number of persons, Europeans, natives, and blacks are usually passing the thoroughfare on the very edge of which the shaft was situated, not a single individual was injured.

One of your oldest negroes, Maria Jose, the matron of the hospital, and the wife of Jose Joaquin, the factor of that establishment, in which situations they have both been always considered invaluable servants, having since the freedom of the husband by Colonel Skerrett looked forward to the same boon (which she was in some degree led to expect, as Colonel Skerrett had recommended her to Mr. Aveline as one of the first objects worthy his consideration for the blessings of freedom), and consequently suffered considerably from disappointment since Mr. Aveline's death; we found her health sinking under it, and were strengthened in this belief by the opinion of Mr. Collier, we therefore felt we should only anticipate your benevolent wishes in assuring this old creature that she might consider herself a free woman from the first of the present year, which we hope you will gratify us by approving of. You may be satisfied that this old couple are, if possible, more attached to your service, and will never think of quitting it.

JOHN MORGAN, R. HICKSON.

Workings from Jan. 9 to 18.—Eight days, 10 lbs. 4 oz. 7 dwt. 22 grs. 13 lbs. 11 oz. 17 dwt. 10 grs.

The produce on the 29th Dec. to the 8th Jan. (the particulars of which have not yet been received) amounted to 9 lbs. 6 oz. 18 dwt. 12 grs. The produce of the half year ending December 31, 1835, amounts to 408 lbs. 6 oz.

REAL DEL MONTE MINING COMPANY.

[Continued from No. 33.]

Mineral del Monte, Feb. 6.—I wrote to you on the 4th ult. and have since received your favour of the 9th November. In forwarding you the usual monthly reports, I have, with respect to the mining affairs, nothing of importance to communicate. The sinking of the Dolores diagonal shaft proceeds satisfactorily, and is now about twelve varas below the level of the bottoms, but I am sorry to say there is no increase of water; the sinking proceeds at about the rate of a vara per week, so that I think we may reasonably hope to drain the bottoms in a short time. In driving the 197 vara upper level, east of Dolores shaft, which you are aware is proposed as a level for ventilation for carrying the adit eastward to San Ramon, we lately very unexpectedly cut into the old San Vicente shaft, which being upon the north part of the vein, we were nearly missing it. It is six varas long and very completely timbered, is open for twenty varas above the level, but full below; but to what depth it reaches we cannot yet ascertain, but think it probable it may have been carried below the adit, although it is not seen there. Its having no communication with the adit, and other circumstances, prove it to be one of the works formed prior to the Regla family getting possession of these mines. We have frequently heard the old miners of the neighbourhood speak of the old Vicente bottoms as having been a very productive place, &c.; but as nothing of the kind appears in the adit, nor in any of the other workings which we have seen, we were not disposed to rely much on these reports. We now propose to drive north on the adit level, expecting we shall cut it there, and shall probably soon have an opportunity of examining to what it may lead. We have discovered an old level going east of this shaft twenty varas, at two varas only above the 197 vara level, we shall, therefore, by cutting it down, make it answer our purpose. The rise, which I noticed in my last report as having been commenced at seventy-five varas east of Dolores to reach the 197 vara upper level, has already been communicated to the old level, already noticed exactly at this end. The 197 vara upper level, therefore, the cross-cut for which from Dolores shaft was begun the latter part of June, will have proceeded at a rate much greater than we had expected, and will soon begin to be useful in carrying on operations eastward. You are aware that we are driving the 137 vara level east of San Cayetano, and the 116 vara level west of Dolores; the communication of these two levels having for its object to relieve Dolores engine by taking off the water to San Cayetano, at a lower level than that in which it is carried at present. In the 137 vara level the lode has lately very much improved in appearance, and has lately produced several bags of good smelting ore; we look to it, therefore, with some interest at present, especially as there is yet a distance of more than ninety varas to communicate. In Terrenos shaft the ground has lately been harder than usual, and the sinking has consequently been retarded. There is no alteration deserving notice, either in the levels or the labours near Santa Teresa and Terrenos shafts. The clearing and securing of Guadalupe shaft proceeds as favourably as we could expect, although it is attended with difficulty, on account of the large rocks met with. I beg to refer you to Mr. Lankau's letter, wherein he enters fully into the subject of the grinding by the Regla arrastres, and shews that, notwithstanding the delay, the result is in favour of grinding the ores to a very fine state. The operations at Sanchez are still greatly retarded by the frost, which has continued rather longer than usual. Since my last I have carefully dialled down the old Acosta shaft and adit cross-cut, as a check against Captain Huskies, and having brought the work to agree, the men are now opening ground in the adit, preparatory to rising against the part sinking from the surface. There is nothing else deserving particular notice in the branch mines.

JOHN RULE.

BOLIVAR MINING ASSOCIATION.

Aros Micas, Feb. 5.—I beg to acquaint you with the particulars of our proceedings in the mine since my last of the 5th January.

Santa Catalina Level.—We have been driving north-east from Bawden's winze, and the cross-cuts east and west, but have not extended far during the last month for want of men. The lode in these stations is very large, but the ore is not rich enough to send away for shipment without being previously treated by the new process.

Middle Level.—We are driving a level east from the inside pass in this level, and under Richard's cross-cut; the lode we are driving upon is large, and consists of ore of good quality.

Long Ludder Wizate.—In this part of the mine we are sinking a winze from a level six fathoms above the Santa Barbara level, and which will communicate with the middle level underneath. We find the ore rich, and the lode at present two feet wide.

Santa Barbara Level.—We are still securing this level, and have been well repaid for what we have done by the rich grey ore we have discovered. On the whole the mine is looking better than when I last wrote, and we hope to raise a greater quantity of ore this month.

Summary of proceedings for January.—Ore brought out of the mine, 500 tons; selected for shipment, 288 tons, produce 30*s* per cent.; reserved for burning, 212 tons; regulus made, 72 tons, produce 41 per cent.; ore sent to Palace station, 301 tons; regulus sent to ditto, 57*s* tons.

New Process.—We have made several trials of this process upon our ores, all of which have been successful. The first trial was made upon 4,000 lbs. of ore, from the large pile that has been burning since the 28th August last; the produce of it was 20*s* per cent., which, after undergoing treatment, was reduced to 2,450 lbs., the assay of which then gave 39*s* per cent.; the result is, that the weight of the ore was reduced 35*s* per cent., and the produce increased 6*s* per cent. The second experiment was on a parcel of 6,000 lbs. of ore of poorer quality, say 18 per cent., and which had only been burnt four weeks; after treatment it gave 3,200 lbs., assay 25*s* per cent. These 3,200 lbs. were again burnt and treated in the same manner; the result was a further diminution in the weight to 2,400 lbs., which, upon being again assayed was found to yield a produce of 29 per cent. The result of both operations is a reduction in the weight of the quantity operated upon of 60 per cent., and an increase in the produce of 6*s* per cent. We also made two other trials: one upon ten tons of ore of 14 per cent., which was raised to 28*s* per cent.; and the other upon a further quantity of ore from the large heap, which afterwards gave a produce of 30 per cent. These experiments completely establish the practicability of the new process. We shall now begin to operate upon larger parcels, for which purpose I last week set fire to a heap of eighty tons, and since to another of 100 tons. Next week I intend putting fire to two further piles of 120 and 80 tons each.

JOHN CARTHEW.

MOCAURAS AND COCAES MINING COMPANY.

Cocas Mine, January 8.—We continue to make very great progress in driving the new adit to M'Donnell's shaft; from A to C (section sent last post) is completed, having holed the ground between the shafts B C since last report; but I am sorry to say that we were obliged to abandon sinking the shaft D on account of the looseness of the ground and the quickness of the water, consequently all the ground between M'Donnell's and the shaft C must be driven from these two shafts, or with two pairs of men: these men are working under a promise of reward for extra exertion. There are now about seventy-seven fathoms of ground between the two ends; and if it continues favourable, it will be done in the time specified. The accompanying little plan, which agrees with the section sent by last post, will show its situation in the large map. The water in M'Donnell's shaft has so much increased, that our present power is scarcely sufficient to keep it under; and I fear that we shall not be able to make much progress in sinking until the completion of our new adit, when our present pumps will be superseded by the nine-inch iron working barrel, lately arrived from England.

At the Preja Grande we have not yet found a firm foundation for the new dam; and I fear, from our numerous experiments, that fix it where we may, we shall be obliged to drive piles to support the south end of the masonry. A smith's and carpenter's shop have been got up since the last report, which

are all the houses that will be necessary. The Blacks can now be employed about the work of the dam.

At the Honda mine we have driven, since last report, about five fathoms; the lode, although large, has been very irregular, and the samples taken from it have been poor; but the jactings has been reserved for washing: that part of the lode upon which we have been making a trial backward in this level, and nearly over the line of the shallow adit, is very large and kindly, and shows gold in the bates; this stuff has been also saved for washing.

The canoes and skin launders for this part of the mine have been completed, but in order to avoid taking any water from M'Donnell's engine to supply them, we have been obliged to cut a new piece of leath, which has occupied us several days, consequently, we have not been able to commence washing till this morning. Our attempts to resume operations at Halfield have proved fruitless, and the water is still falling in great abundance through the stuff, which I expect is finding its way to the bottom of M'Donnell's.

At Antonio Dias and Manoel Tiliis the lode is very poor, the end going west from Morgan's shaft is in disordered ground, consequently the lode is very irregular. In Waller's cross-cut the ground has been rather harder than usual during the last ten days, but it is again a little improved; between this end and the shallow adit there are about twelve fathoms of ground yet to be driven through, which, on being completed, must, to a certainty, intersect all the lodes and branches, and will render this part of the mine very advantageous for working, as a tram-road will be laid down in Waller's cross-cut, and all the stuff broken from the lode will be drawn to the surface through Waller's shaft, when the present engine-wheel will be applied to work stamps for crushing it. In the ground in the deep and shallow adits there is no alteration.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the board's letter (original), dated 5th November, and their instructions shall be properly attended to. From their remarks respecting a cross-cut at Halfield's shaft, I think they are under a wrong idea as to the run of the veins; these veins, although apparently crossing the lode, always continue in it; it is therefore necessary to keep on the course of the lode whatever direction it may take to find them; this has been fully explained in the references to the large plan.

REVIEWS.

London and Edinburgh Philosophical Magazine, April, 1836.

The number for this month contains much valuable matter, but our space is so confined that we must necessarily limit our extracts to that of Professor Barlow's communication, which, treating on railways, may be accessible to many of our scientific readers interested in that subject.

An amusing but not a very accurate critique of my Reports to the Directors of the London and Birmingham Railway Company having been recently published by Lieutenant LeCount, R. N., which must, I suppose, be considered as the last expiring groans of the fish-bellied rails, in which critique many of my formulae are made to suffer woful transformations, allow me in their defense to make a few observations, and they shall be very few. The author commences his inquiry at page 20, and as an earnest of what is to follow, his very first step is to correct a simple trigonometrical expression I have given (which is perfectly right as it stands), and by his correction to render it ambiguous. With this corrected formula, however, after another forty pages, he contrives to prove what I have stated at page 19 of my Report, viz. that by taking a most injudicious form of parallel rail, we may get one inferior to the fish-bellied rail of the same weight. Now, my object has been to prove, on the other hand, that by choosing a judicious section we may get one as decidedly superior; and I have no doubt that thus far both conclusions are just, notwithstanding the ambiguity of his formula.

As it stands in my report, the expression is

$$\sqrt{(r^2 + d^2 - 2 dr \cos \alpha)}$$

selected them, with very few alterations, from the reports on the subject lately published by the Government.

It is now about thirty years since gold was discovered in North Carolina; it was found in the sand and gravel of different water-courses, first in Cabarras county, and soon afterwards in the county of Montgomery, in that state. Until within a few years past, the process of washing for gold was principally confined to the two counties just named. The greater portion of the gold thus procured was found in small pieces, varying in size from one pennyweight down to particles of extreme minuteness; at most of the mines, however, it is not uncommon to find pieces of a much larger size: for example, at Cabarras, a single piece has been found weighing twenty-eight pounds avoirdupois, besides several other pieces varying from four to sixteen pounds. The proprietor of the same mine affirms, that about a hundred pounds avoirdupois have been found, in pieces about one pound in weight; these large pieces, however, compose but a small portion of the whole product of the mines.

At a mine in Montgomery county, a number of pieces of about one pound weight have been found—one of them weighed four pounds eleven ounces, and another three pounds. In Anson county, during the summer of 1828, a piece of gold weighing ten pounds, and another of four pounds weight, together with a number of small pieces, were taken up out of the sand and gravel of Richardson's Creek. These discoveries have been chiefly made in or near beds of streams; but in some instances deposits of considerable extent have been found on the sides and tops of hills.

It was not, however, until about six years ago that the gold mines, properly speaking, were discovered in North Carolina—that is, gold in regular, well-defined veins.

This discovery, like that of the alluvial deposits, was in some measure accidental. A person, while washing the sand and gravel of a small rivulet for gold in Montgomery county, observed that he could never find it beyond a certain spot in ascending the stream; but at the point where the gold seemed to cease, he discovered a quartz vein running into the hill on one side of the channel, and at right angles with the course of the rivulet. Having frequently taken up out of the bed of the stream pieces of quartz with bits of gold attached to them, he came to the conclusion that the gold found scattered below, must have come out of the vein of quartz; and he determined to pursue it into the hill. He had done so but for a few feet, when he struck upon a beautiful deposit of the metal in a matrix of quartz, and subsequently another in carbonate of lime. In following this vein about thirty or forty feet longitudinally, and at a depth of not more than fifteen or eighteen feet, he found a succession of what are technically termed "nests," from which he took out more than 15,000 dwt. of virgin gold. Soon afterwards the mine fell into other hands, and the working of the vein has been discontinued in consequence of the quantity of water which made its appearance, though it is understood that it will be resumed in a short time. This discovery of the metal in regular veins, presented the subject in a new and interesting point of view, and directed a search for gold among the hills and high grounds, and particularly for veins traversing the earth.

In the course of the summer, after the development of Barringer's mine, some valuable mines were discovered in Mecklenburgh county. The product of these, worked in the rudest manner, without skill or capital, was so great as to excite general notice, and stimulated the land-owners in that section to search for these hidden treasures. The mines now began to attract the attention of the public, and several persons of enterprise and some capital repaired to the spot. Some of them made investments, began to erect machinery, and worked the veins with system and regularity. The success of the first adventurers in this new enterprise, and for a time the attention of every body who sought to engage in the mining business, was exclusively turned towards Mecklenburgh county. The consequence was, a constant search for gold was kept up in that county, and not unattended with success, as many very promising veins were discovered. These Mecklenburgh mines were the first that attracted attention, and the first that were examined and worked with skill and management. They were, of course, greatly in advance of every other part of the region, and the products have been greater in proportion to the labour, capital, and skill that have been applied to them.

In the course of the succeeding year, a very extensive and rich vein was discovered in Guilford county, and it was soon operated upon by more than one hundred hands, who flocked in from the country around, and received permission to dig there. The discovery of one vein in a district, furnishes the means of finding others. The people of the neighbourhood visit it, examine the appearance of the ores, and other signs and indications, and thus, in some degree, are qualified to make a search on their own lands elsewhere. This was the case in Guilford county; the discovery of the first vein was soon followed by the opening of several others. The same plan will be followed in every district, until the Gold Region be explored, and the places which exhibit any external signs of gold be thoroughly known. About this time, Cabarras county, which had hitherto been only considered as productive in its washings, was ascertained to be a vein-mining district, and discoveries to the same effect were made about the same period at Lincoln.

It is less than two years and a half ago since gold in veins was first discovered in Davidson county, it having previously been found only in and near the beds of rivulets and creeks. Within the last few months, veins have been opened in the adjoining county of Randolph. Rowan, situated between Davidson and Cabarras counties, embraces a considerable section of the Gold Region, and contains many veins whose external appearance is good and promising. The metal is also found in the streams: some few veins have also been opened in Tredell county, and are now in a course of development.

While progress had been thus making in opening veins, and in ascertaining their situations, some valuable discoveries of stream deposits occurred in a section of the state of North Carolina, hitherto not suspected to be within the range of the Gold Region. In Burke county, one of the most mountainous of the state, and one, two, or more feet under the surface, a layer of sand and gravel is found, varying, from a few inches, sometimes to more than a foot in thickness; in this layer the virgin gold is found, generally in small particles about the size of a pin's head, and very often as large as a grain of corn; it is separated and collected from the accompanying matter by washing. Water is abundant, and the absence of clay and adhesive matter in the auriferous layer, makes the process of washing exceedingly easy. A number of these deposits have already been found, and some of them have proved to be very productive. It may be here mentioned that, in the adjoining county of Rutherford, gold in deposit has also been found; but, as yet, not much labour has been expended in that quarter. One vein, which is very encouraging, has been worked regularly; and another vein, of good expectations, has been discovered.

In short, the veins and places of deposit are very numerous, and scattered over the whole country, with a few exceptions; and the gold which is produced finds a market so readily, that it is difficult to give a very correct estimate of the product of the mines of the Carolinas, Virginia, and Georgia; but it was said to amount to 500,000 dollars in 1830, from North Carolina alone. During that year, nearly the whole gold coinage of the United States' mint was from native gold. The coinage was 643,105 dollars in gold coin: of this, 125,000 were derived from Mexico, South America, and the West Indies; 19,000 from Africa; 466,000 from the Gold Region of the United States; and about 33,000 from sources not ascertained. Of the gold of the United States above mentioned, 24,000 may be stated to have come from Virginia; 204,000 from North Carolina; 26,000 from South Carolina, and 212,000 from Georgia.

It may not be out of place here to remark, that hereafter the quantity of domestic gold that will be received at the Mint, will bear a less proportion to the whole amount found, than has been the case heretofore; the reason is this: hitherto, Philadelphia may be said to have been nearly the only market for the article; goldsmiths and merchants at New York, and other cities in the Union, were unacquainted with it; and therefore, for fear of deception, dealt but little in it; this occasioned the greater part of the gold to be taken to Philadelphia, where, if not sold to the goldsmiths or merchants, it was deposited in the Mint; so that, at all events, a portion of it always contrived to reach that establishment. But now the case is different; a market for the gold is opening in most of the cities of the United States; goldsmiths and jewellers, having ascertained its comparative purity, which is said to be greater than that of the gold of Mexico or the Brazils, will generally become purchasers for their own use.

That there will be an increase in the products of the mines every succeeding year, admits of very little doubt, when the gradual enlargement of the Gold Region, extending through Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Georgia—the number of persons turning their attention to the business—the mills that are now erecting in various places—the improvement in the mode of working and general management—are made the subjects of consideration.

The improvements in machinery have been considerable within the last two years: it is believed, however, that as yet they are far from being perfect. The defects in the present mode of extracting the gold are well known to those most extensively engaged in the business; and some of the miners, even at this time, are turning their attention towards the introduction of other methods, promising more economy and greater results.

Grinding the ore in water with the vertical stone, which is the method practised in Chili, is now the process most generally used; but the difficulties of the vertical or Chiliian mill, to become disordered—the waste of gold and quicksilver—the irregularity of results from the same ores—the want of proper checks on the workmen, together with minor objections—will probably, in a few years more, cause these mills to be in a great measure discontinued, except in small establishments, and for certain classes of ores in the larger ones.

The auriferous veins of North Carolina and Virginia have not yet been sufficiently developed. As yet, not a single shaft in the whole range of country (except at the Charlotte mine, near a small town of that name,

worked under the direction of the Chevalier de Rivainfond), has been carried down to the depth of a hundred feet.

Seventy to eighty feet is the greatest depth yet attained; and thirty feet is more than an average on the main excavation: as far, however, as these experiments have gone, they furnish no reason to doubt the durability of the veins; for, thus far, the well-defined veins not only retain their first size, but in many cases become larger, and, more often than otherwise, improve in richness. This circumstance has given rise to an idea among the common workmen, that the vein grows richer about the time it reaches water. On the whole, when it is considered that in Mexico, Saxony, and other great mining districts, veins have been successfully followed downwards more than 2,500 feet, the probability that the veins in the United States will improve, is, at least, as great as that they will become poorer. Nor is it in the nature of things, that any considerable portion of the whole number of veins existing there, much less all of them, have already been discovered.

The usual way that discoveries are made, is to take some of the earth or gravel lying on the top of the rocks, and wash it in an iron pan. If any fine particles of gold are found, the vein is known to be auriferous, and its degrees of richness and value is judged of by a variety of circumstances. This fine gold, without doubt, comes out of the vein, the top of which had been disintegrated, and fallen to pieces. There are many bold veins in every district, the tops of which show no gold, whilst other indicating substances are abundant. The probability is, that some of them at a greater depth may prove highly auriferous.

ASCENT OF MONT BLANC.

Dr. Barry delivered his second and last morning lecture on this subject, in the Assembly-rooms, Edinburgh. We never saw any auditory listen with more intense interest to any lecture than on this occasion. Nor could it have been otherwise. Not only was the subject quite new, and in itself interesting and spirit-stirring, but it was treated in the most happy style, with an elegance of language, and a depth of feeling, that excited and captivated every hearer. Indeed, if we may judge from ourselves, the effect was extremely powerful, if not overwhelming. The dangers and hair-breadth escapes of the adventurous traveller and his guides—his animated and glowing description of scenery, particularly when on the summit of the mountain—his analysis of his own feelings and sensations, combined with many delightful and touching episodes, so simply and eloquently told—all these riveted the attention and affected the heart of every listener. The expedition occupied three days; and, consequently, Dr. Barry and his attendants (six in number) slept, or rather spent, two nights on the snow. On the summit he made various meteorological and other observations; and the prospect he described as most overpowering and magnificent. He saw the Lake of Geneva, which is distant about fifty miles, lying as a pond, as it were, at his feet. He saw the range of Jura and the Rhone on the one hand, and the Appenines and the Po on the other, his eye reaching even to the heights of Tuscany, 200 miles off. The verdant valleys of Italy seemed lying below him; and, indeed, so far as the physical appearance of countries goes, he may be regarded, while standing on the apex of Mont Blanc, as having made the grand tour of Europe. A fire was raised at the summit, and the party enjoyed some refreshments; the mind all the while being engrossed with the intense interest which their situation inspired, and with the sublimity of the scene. The cold was not severe; and not a cloud, or the speck of a cloud, had been seen above the horizon during the whole three days. Dr. Barry left, with great regret, the interesting spot in its icy, silent, solitary magnificence, and justly observed that the remembrance of that interesting period, and the objects which excited that interest, can never be effaced from his mind, and that it will ever afford him associations of the most touching and vivid description.

The ascent of Mont Blanc awakens the most lively interest among the simple but amiable inhabitants of the celebrated valley of Chamonix, from which it is customary for the traveller to start. No person had ascended the mountain for rather more than four years before the period when Dr. Barry undertook this important enterprise; a circumstance which tended to increase the feeling in question.

When he and his guides left the valley and entered on their great emprise, the interest was universal and intense; many tears flowed. Their progress both upward and downward was eagerly attempted to be traced; and so clear was the atmosphere, that they were described, though with difficulty, on the summit. On their way downwards, when still a few thousand feet from the valley, a mountain-maid met them with refreshments; and among the crowds that welcomed them on their safe return was a very venerable old man of 73—Jacques Balmat—the person who first ascertained that the ascent was practicable, and who, in 1786, had accompanied the first traveller (Dr. Paccard, a Savoyard) to the top of the mountain. Dr. Barry stated that he was sorry to say, and we are sure the audience was no less sorry to hear, that Balmat had since perished, having ascended the heights in search of minerals, and never returned. Dr. Barry, on the night of his return, having asked his guides, Balmat, and other friends, to sup with him, the occasion may well be conceived as having been peculiarly interesting and happy one. It may not be improper to mention that, on the following day, the Doctor, without much fatigue, travelled over the Mer de Glace to the other side of Aiguille Verte and returned; a distance, including the windings, of about forty miles.

Among other important collateral information communicated to his hearers by Dr. Barry, we beg to submit to our readers a list of the different ascents which have been made to the summit of Mont Blanc. It does not include guides, except Balmat, who, by climbing the mountain in search of minerals, had the honour, though accidentally, of first ascertaining the practicability of the ascent. He did not himself, however, quite reach the top till a year afterwards, when he accompanied Dr. Paccard. It may not be unimportant to observe that a mountain-maid, on one occasion, made the ascent, having accompanied a body of guides. In the following list the great relative number of Englishmen is very remarkable, being more than the half of the aggregate number. There is only one Scotsman who has performed the task.

List of Ascents which have been made to the Summit of Mont Blanc.

1786	August 8.	Jacques Balmat (guide of Chamonix),	Savoyard.
1787	—	M. de Saussure.	Ditto.
—	—	Colonel Beaufoy.	Swiss.
1788	—	M. Mr. Woodley.	English.
1802	—	Baron Duorthesen.	Courlandais.
	10.	M. Forquer.	Swiss.
1812	Sept. 10.	M. Rhodas (Rodatz).	Hamburger.
1818	August 4.	Count Matezesczki.	Pole.
1819	June 19.	Dr. Renaudier.	American.
—	Aug. 13.	Captain Unbrell.	Ditto.
1822	—	Mr. Cissoid.	English.
1823	Sept. 4.	Mr. Jackson.	Ditto.
1825	Aug. 26.	Dr. Edmund Clark.	Ditto.
1827	July 25.	Mr. Fellowes.	Ditto.
—	Aug. 9.	Mr. Audijo.	Scotch.
1830	—	Captain Wilbraham.	English.
1834	Sept. 17.	Dr. Martin Barry.	Ditto.
—	Oct. 9.	Count de Tilly.	French.

Thus, exclusive of guides:—

Savoyard	1	Hamburger	1
Swiss	2	Pole	1
Britons	12	Americans	2
Courlandais	1	French	1

In all. 21.

The list contains 22, including Balmat the guide, through whom the summit was first gained.

We cannot conclude this article without again expressing the delight we feel, and the instruction we received on hearing Dr. Barry's admirable lectures: which we are sure neither we, nor any who had the privilege of listening to them, will soon forget. It is also proper to mention that the ingenious sculptor, Mr. Slater, is entitled to no small share of the praise, as his model of Mont Blanc, and the surrounding heights, while it was splendidly executed, afforded Dr. Barry an opportunity (of which he amply availed himself) of giving a distinctness and precision to his narrative, which, without Mr. Slater's aid, it would have been perfectly impossible to communicate.

STRIKE AT LEADHILLS.—It is with pain we state, that a misunderstanding has arisen between the employed and their employers at the village of Leadhills, and that the former, in the mean time, have dropped work, to the number, we believe, of two hundred. The workmen say, that when lead was low in price they never grumbled, having been led to believe that when better times came their circumstances would be improved; and as the mineral has advanced considerably, the miners consider themselves entitled to an augmentation of wages. At present the miners earn on an average about 18*s*. a year, and are allowed gardens, some of which are large, rent free. The cottages they occupy are built at their own expense, but those, on leaving the place, they are at liberty to sell, providing the purchaser be an inhabitant of Leadhills. We understand they conceive themselves entitled to 26*s*. per annum.—*Glasgow Constitutional*.

VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS.

In the history of volcanic eruptions, frequent mention is made of torrents of water and mud ejected by volcanoes. Bongo and Condamine saw these formidable torrents tear up the surface of a whole country. Six hours after an explosion of Cotopaxi, a village nearly eighty miles distant in a straight line, and probably 140 by the winding channel, was entirely swept away by the flood. In 1698 the volcano of Carguarazo, contiguous to and probably connected with Chimborazo, sunk in, and covered nearly fifty square miles of country with mud. It is not, in fact, by burning lavas that the volcanoes of Peru and Quito exercise their ravages, but by torrents of mud and water. The mud, when first ejected, has the consistency of pap, but it speedily hardens; and occasionally contains so much black combustible matter, that the inhabitants make use of it afterwards for fuel. Sometimes the muddy waters that flow from subterranean caverns carry along with them a vast quantity of small fishes. These are a species of glutinous *pinelodes* (*pinelodes cyclopis*, Humb.), of which the largest are scarcely four inches long. Their number is often so considerable, that by purifying them breed a pestilence in the country. They are of the same species as those living in the native streams; from which it would appear that there are certain communications between the upper level of the volcanic lakes in the interior of the mountains, and the surface of the external land. The wonderful circumstance is, that they are raised up from that level 8000 or 9000 feet high, and ejected from the crater with very little injury.

The masses of water and mud, in the preceding cases, are probably due to local peculiarities. There can, however, be no doubt that the expansion of water by heat into steam, forms the eruptive agent which elevates and throws out the liquid lavas of volcanoes, as well as the showers of ashes and stones. The fountains of the Geysers in Iceland indisputably prove the volcanic agency of steam, so that Savery's engine is merely a miniature model of the mechanism employed by nature, on a magnificent scale, to give projectile force to her jets of hot water in Iceland. "For an hour and a half," says an intelligent traveller, "the column rose without interruption 130 feet high, being seventeen feet thick at its greatest diameter; and spouted up with such energy, that it retained near the top the same dimensions and the same figure as at the base. On throwing stones into the volcanic gulf, they were seen to mount instantly with the column of water, and even to reach a still greater height with astonishing velocity."

Great volcanic eruptions are usually accompanied with very heavy rains, which inundate the contiguous regions. The sea seems to sympathise with the agitations of the adjoining volcanoes; rising and falling in rapid alternation. We may ascribe to a similar oscillation the depression which it suddenly undergoes in the neighbourhood of a volcano, at the crisis of an eruption, caused by the sudden reflux of a great body of water into the vast volcanic caverns. Earthquakes and volcanoes are intimately related. They are, says D'Aubuisson, most likely the effects of the same agents, or subterranean fires. In the tremendous earthquake which destroyed Lima in 1746, four volcanoes were opened up in one night, and the agitation of the ground immediately ceased. The deeper seated the explosive forces are, the more extensive and sudden is the concussion. At Cumana, in 1812, the first shock lasted six seconds, the second twelve; then a very loud subterranean noise was heard, followed by a perpendicular movement of three or four seconds' duration, which was terminated by a longer continued undulatory motion. Nothing on the surface of the ground could resist these cross oscillations: the city was totally overthrown, leaving only the cathedral: the ocean was very violently agitated by earthquakes. At that which desolated Lisbon in 1755, even the British and Norwegian seas felt the shock; and at the same instant the whole land of Portugal and Andalusia vibrated. In Africa, when the cities of Morocco, Fez, and Mequinez were in a great degree destroyed, the sensation of the earthquake was perceived over a large portion of Spain, France, Switzerland, and Germany. The shock that ruined Lima was propagated across the continent of America, and the Atlantic Ocean, even to Europe. A violent earthquake which not long ago overthrew some houses at Constantinople, caused a concussion at Petersburgh. On the 6th of September, 1801, between one and two o'clock in the morning, a considerable earthquake shook the whole of Europe and Asia.

Till Sir H. Davy's splendid discoveries of the metallic bases of the earths and alkalis in 1807 and 1808, no hypothesis explanatory of volcanoes had been offered which was entitled to the slightest respect. Ever since that most illustrious era, however, I have regarded the theory of volcanic action equally complete and satisfactory with most of our physical inductions. It is therefore peculiarly gratifying to find that its celebrated author has himself finally favoured the world with the development of views so entirely his own.

The metals of the alkalis and earths, from their paramount affinity for oxygen, could not possibly exist on the surface, but only in the interior of the globe. On this principle, volcanic fires would be occasioned whenever these metals were extensively exposed to the action of air and water. Thus, also, the formation of lavas might be explained, as well as that of granites, porphyries, basalts, and many other crystalline rocks, from the slow cooling of the products of combustion or oxidation of these remarkable substances.—*Ure's New System of Geology*.

ELECTRICAL SHOCK FROM A SHEET OF PAPER.—Place an iron japanned tea-tray on a dry, clean beaker-glass, then take a sheet of foolscap writing paper, and hold it close to the fire until all its hygroscopic moisture is dissipated, but not so as to scorch it; in this state it is one of the finest electrics we have. Hold one end down on a table with the finger and thumb, and give it about a dozen strokes with a large piece of India rubber from the left to the right, beginning at the top. Now take it up by two of the corners and bring it over the tray, and it will fall down on it like a stone; if one finger be now brought under the tray, a sensible shock will be felt. Now lay a needle on the tray with its point projecting outwards, remove the paper, and a star sign of the negative electricity will be seen, return the paper, and the positive brush will appear. In fact, it forms a very good extemporaneous electrophorus, which will give a spark an inch long, and strong enough to set fire to some combustible bodies, and to exhibit all the electric phenomena not requiring coated surfaces. If four beaker glasses are placed on the floor, and a book laid on them, a person may stand on them insulated; if he then holds the tray vertically, the paper will strongly adhere to it, and sparks may be drawn from any part of his body, or he may draw sparks from any other person, as the case may be; or he may set fire to some inflammable bodies by touching them with a piece of ice.—*Mechanics' Magazine*.

TRAVELLING IN ENGLAND A CENTURY AGO.—In December, 1703, Charles III., King of Spain, slept at Petworth, on his way from Portsmouth to Windsor,

GOLD REGION OF VIRGINIA.

We have received a copy of a "Report of the Geological Reconnaissance of the State of Virginia, made under the appointment of the Board of Public Works, by William B. Rogers, Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Virginia," and presented to "the House of Delegates" by the President, from which we shall have occasion to quote, selecting from our present number the subject of

THE AURIFEROUS ROCK.

A general examination of this district suggests a variety of problems of a scientific as well as practical nature, which it would be premature at this time to attempt to resolve. The number and extent of the quartz veins is one of the most interesting as well as important features in the geology of this region, and it is greatly to be desired that minute observation be directed to the tracing of these veins through the state as far as practicable; to the determination of the general value of each vein now wrought, as well as the study of the efficacy of the various processes adopted for the purpose of separating the gold from the materials with which it is intermixed. There can be no doubt, that with the means now most commonly in use, a large proportion of the precious metal is lost and thrown out with the gravel from which only the larger masses of the gold have been separated. At one of the mines visited during the reconnaissance, the sand and gravel, after having been twice subjected to the usual process of washing, was found sufficiently productive to yield five dollars a day to each of the two persons who were washing it a third time. In some of the mines more scientific and effectual means, both of conducting the mining operations and the subsequent process for separating the gold, have been introduced, and when these improvements shall have become more generally known, we may hope for much more profitable returns than in many instances have been hitherto obtained. The amazing richness of many of these veins has attracted enterprise to this branch of mining to such an extent, that the exploration of the most promising auriferous veins has of late been very actively and successfully pursued.

Spotsylvania and the adjacent counties, Orange, Louisa, Fluvanna, and Buckingham, numerous veins have been wrought for some time; from many of which rich returns have been procured, and under improved modes of operation a still larger profit may be expected. Any detailed account of the various workings now in progress would be inappropriate in the present report, even if the state of our knowledge were such as to warrant statements of a positive nature. Some account of the structure, position, and contents of the veins may be introduced as generally applicable to the whole.

The material of the veins is a variegated quartz, sometimes translucent, at others opaque. It is generally of a cellular structure, fractures without much difficulty, and in many instances contains a considerable proportion of water dispersed through its substance. Its surface, recently exposed, displays a variety of tints of brown, purple, and yellow, of such peculiar aspect as to resemble a thin lacquer spread unequally over the rock. The cavities are often filled with a bright yellow ochre, or hydrated per oxide of iron, which generally contains gold in a state of minute division. Sulphuret of iron (pyrites) is another accompanying mineral, which in many mines occurs in considerable quantities. At Morton's mine (Buckingham) it is peculiarly abundant, and there, as in other places, generally contains a portion of combined gold. In the Union mine, near the Rappahannock, some of the auriferous veins consist largely of the pyrites, which here contains so much of the precious metal as to render the extraction of it an object of profit. This pyrites, in all probability, was at some former period more generally diffused throughout all the auriferous veins, and by its decomposition gave rise to the per-oxide of iron, with which the quartz is always more or less imbued, while the gold existing in it was deposited in the cells and fissures of the quartz. Siderite is occasionally found in connexion with the gold, and the sulphurites of copper and lead have been discovered in a few instances in the auriferous rock.

The rocks forming the boundaries of the auriferous veins vary very much in different localities. Talcose slate, chlorite slate, and a variety of these, abounding in garnets, are the most usual. They are commonly of a soft texture, yielding readily to the blast, and even to the pick or spade sometimes. Instances occur, however, in which the walls of the vein are of such hardness as to greatly increase the expense and difficulty of procuring the ore. Of this a striking example is exhibited in Moreton's mine, where the rock is removed with difficulty even by the blasting process, while at Booker's adamsone other mines its texture is so rotten that it rather presents the appearance of earth than rock. Veins like the latter, under favourable circumstances, would give rise to what are technically called *deposit mines*, in other words, collections of clay and sand and gravel, enclosing a portion of gold, all which materials have been removed by the action of torrents or streams from their original position in the vein to some adjacent ravine or hollow, in which they have been quietly deposited. The rocks adjacent to the quartz are often auriferous, and in some instances have been found as productive as the quartz itself. Of this several striking instances occur in the mines of Buckingham, and I believe that in many other localities the same condition would be found to exist.

It has already been stated that nearly all the rocks of this region dip steeply to the east, and it is found that the auriferous quartz veins conform in the main to the inclination of the enclosing strata. The quartz is not, however, to be regarded as an interstratified portion of the series, which would imply its contemporaneous origin with the strata.

The form and position of the veins is rarely such as to justify this view. Instead of lying in uniform thickness between the walls of the adjacent rock, and with surfaces of slight irregularity, we find the auriferous veins in most cases very irregular in their forms, at one point having a thickness of several feet, at another very near to the former, contracting so as only to measure a few inches across. Again, in many cases the vein divides, and the separate portions afterwards unite or send off other branches.

The bounding surfaces, too, instead of being nearly uniform, as in the strata of the neighbouring rocks, are rough and broken, sending off numerous small veins of quartz into the enclosing strata.

In Morton's mines the width varies from seven feet to five or six inches. In Booker's the vein forks, thus, and frequently widens. At the Union mine on the Rappahannock the breadth varies in some cases from six inches to nearly three feet.

In fact, from the dimensions of the vein at any assumed point, no certain inference can be drawn with regard to its extent at other and remote positions. This irregular structure, while it diminishes confidence in the constancy of a large and fertile vein, at the same time furnishes grounds for continuing the examination and prosecution of one, which by its contraction has become of little or no value, as an enlargement at a small depth beneath, may reveal an abundance of productive rock.

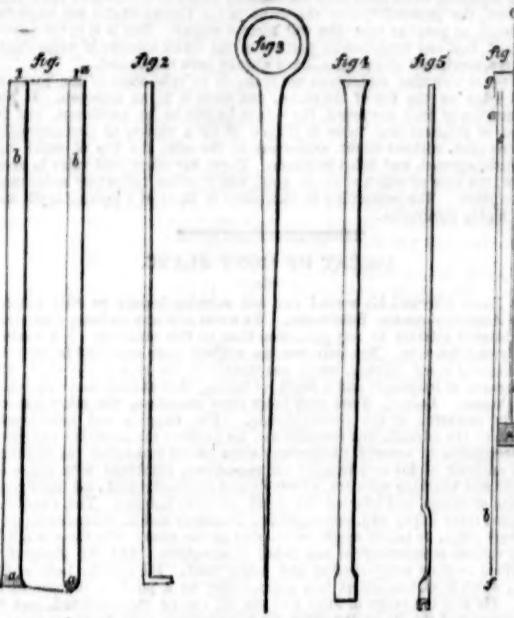
Another fact of some direct bearing upon the question of the origin of the auriferous veins, is this, that although in the main, the dip and direction of the vein conforms with those of the enclosing strata, the correspondence is far from being exact, and, in many instances, while the inclination of the neighbouring strata remains unchanged, that of the vein undergoes very striking alteration. At Morton's mine, already referred to, the dip near the surface is about 20 degrees, while at some depth beneath it becomes forty-five degrees; and similar instances of variation might be adduced by reference to other localities.

It would thus appear that these numerous veins of quartz are not to be regarded as deposits coeval with the regularly stratified rocks among which they are found, since in that case their position and structure would exhibit a like degree of uniformity, but as matter which, subsequent to the production of the neighbouring rocks, was forcibly injected between them by igneous agencies from beneath, rising in the directions of least resistance, and, therefore, generally, though by no means uniformly, following the places of stratification of the rocks through which they passed. Instead, therefore, of considering them as beds like the adjoining strata, as some writers have done, we would incline to class them among *veins of injection*, of which numerous instances occur in other parts of the globe. We are the more persuaded of the correctness of this view of their origin, from the consideration that throughout all the region in which the quartz veins are found, very peculiar modifications in the structure and composition of the surrounding rocks are invariably to be observed—modifications for which no adequate cause can be found in the other igneous rocks which occasionally occur. In the Blue Ridge, the South-west mountain, and in numerous other lines, it may always be remarked, that wherever the modified rocks occur, indicating an igneous action, more or less intense, which has wrought a change in their structure, and induced new arrangements of the ingredients of the rocks, heavy veins of quartz are sure to lie in their immediate vicinity; while, through the body of the rocks themselves, countless minute veins of the same material are seen diverging from the principal mass, and imparting various metamorphic characters to the substances with which they are in contact.

Besides the auriferous veins of the region in which gold occurs, there exist many other veins of quartz agreeing with those which have been found productive in nearly all particulars, save that of containing a valuable proportion of the precious metal. It is highly probable that some of these veins are entirely destitute of gold, and in many instances no doubt the prosecution of the vein would lead to the discovery at other points of it, of an ore sufficiently rich to reward the labour of the extraction. Indeed, it must be looked upon as probable, that the auriferous character, more or less, pervades the quartz veins generally, even as far as their western limit in the Blue Ridge. The striking similarity in the character of these all, and the obvious contemporaneity of their origin, would seem to give great plausibility to this opinion; and if we are to credit the statements of the discovery of gold in the western part of Albemarle, and at one or two other points equally remote from the

gold region, as usually defined, we can no longer doubt the propriety of regarding the Blue Ridge as the proper western boundary of the auriferous rocks. A careful investigation of the numerous large quartz veins ranging along the valley between the south-west mountain and Blue Ridge, becomes in this point of view a matter of great importance; and should the auriferous character be found pervading these veins, as is not improbable the fact, the extent and value of the gold region of the state will scarcely have a parallel upon the globe.

ON PRACTICAL MINING.—BLASTING.



The first part of the process is preparing or boring the hole for the reception of gunpowder. This is effected with the sharpened bar, represented in fig. 1, and is the "borer," of which the length and breadth are variable. The shaded portion (a), which is the cutting part, being of steel, and the upper part (b) held by the workman. In St. Just, the western part of Cornwall, the "borer" is held in one hand, and the hammer in the other, the operation being performed by one person. But in the central and eastern parts one person holds the "borer," whilst another uses the hammer ("mallet"). From the "borer" being kept constantly in motion, the hole is made of a circular form. The depth may be said to vary between eight inches and five feet, and the breadth from one to three inches. Water is put into the hole, if none issue from the rock, to facilitate the operation of the "borer," and the abraded matter is withdrawn by the "scraper," fig. 2. It is afterwards further cleaned with a piece of wood, of which one end is broken abroad for the purpose ("the swab stick"). When the hole is inclined and intended to be deep, a long "borer" is used, which one man raises and lets fall, the operation obtaining mostly by the weight and velocity of the instrument, this is denominated "jumping." If the hole be dry and much inclined, the gunpowder is now poured into it; the quantity requisite is at first guessed; but after a few explosions it is seen whether the first proportion be a proper one: for it should just fracture without breaking it into pieces, and scattering to a distance. If this latter take place the quantity must be diminished; but if the rock be not broken it must be increased. Some of the gunpowder will adhere to the moist sides of the hole; this should be, and frequently is, wiped down with the end of the "swab stick." If the "rush" be used to convey a spark to the "charge" of gunpowder, a piece of clay is placed thereon; and through both, the "needle" is inserted until it reaches nearly to the bottom of the hole. The "nail," fig. 3, is a metallic rod, gradually tapering to a point; and at the other end it is formed into a bow.

It was formerly made entirely of iron; but latterly, although rather less frequently used, its pointed extremity has been made of copper, as, during its introduction, removal, &c., the iron has caused ignition, and been attended with fatal consequences. On the clay, are put down, and gently beaten with the "tamping" or "ramming" bar, fig. 4, pieces of some stony substance, which readily yields to the hammers without giving a spark—pieces of roofing tile, soft slate, decomposing porphyry, friable granite, coal, or solid copper, are most commonly used. At first a little is put in, and beaten firmly down; then a second small quantity, and so on, a third, fourth, &c., until the hole is filled. It is desirable that each layer should be very thin, as the confining power of the "tamping" is considered to be in proportion to the number of layers, not regarding the thickness of each; of course this is to be understood as within certain limits. The tamping bar is usually made of iron, the lower extremity shod with copper or brass. The next point is the removal of the "nail," which is done by striking it upward, or by the use of a lever. The "rush" is now to be introduced into the hole left by the "nail"; the pith having been first removed, and its place filled with fine gunpowder. Nothing now remains but the application of fire, which is communicated by the ignition of one end of a piece of coarse paper, smeared with grease; the "snog," the other end, being placed in contact with the "rush"; the slow combustion affords time for the escape of the workmen.

It has already been stated that nearly all the rocks of this region dip steeply to the east, and it is found that the auriferous quartz veins conform in the main to the inclination of the enclosing strata. The quartz is not, however, to be regarded as an interstratified portion of the series, which would imply its contemporaneous origin with the strata.

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Dr. Paris⁴ has proposed an apparatus, which he denominates a "shifting cartridge," the invention of Captain Chenhalls, of St. Just, which would appear useful for charging holes of small depth, and has probably not attracted the attention it deserves. Fig. 6† represents a section of the instrument. Dr. Paris says "it consists of a copper cylinder a b two feet in length, and one inch in diameter, containing a moveable rod c which is graduated in inches, and has affixed to its extremity a leaden plug d, the cap e is made to take off, in order, at any time, to allow the removal of the rod for cleaning the interior."

Manner of using it.—Draw out the rod as many inches as you require it to deliver of gunpowder, then invert the instrument, fill it and place a piece of moistened clay at the mouth of the cylinder: it is now to be inserted into the hole, when, by pressing down the sliding rod, the whole charge is immediately delivered in a mass without any loss; before the instrument is withdrawn, the rod should be rammed down smartly, several times upon the mass of gunpowder. In charging "back holes" ‡ the clay should be stuck upon the end of the plug d previous to the introduction of the powder into the cylinder. When quills are used "for a fuse, in reference to the needle, it will be found advantageous to affix in the cylinder a smaller tube for their reception, as represented in the plate e,f." Dr. Paris might have spared his remarks on the waste of gunpowder in the Cornish mines, in consequence of the ignorance and carelessness of the workmen; for, as that material is paid for by themselves, all the waste is their own loss. It is difficult for any but a practical man to say where a hole may be advantageously placed; and this knowledge is difficult to communicate on paper, beside requiring more place than these observations are intended to occupy.

Nothing but experiment can point to the proper quantity of gunpowder requisite for any given hole; and the London Doctor might have sparingly of his censures § until better acquainted with the facts.

It has frequently been written and said, that sand is a very good and efficient substitute for "tamping;" many experiments have been made on this point, but hitherto without any very positive result. The sand has unquestionably been blown out in many cases; whilst it cannot be denied that, in some instances, the results seemed to be favourable to such a conclusion. Further trials are certainly required to set this important point at rest.

Accidental Explosions, and their causes.—Of premature explosions by far the larger portion may be separated into two classes, viz. 1st, those originating through the "nail;" and 2d, in the "tamping" process. The first class, of course, occurs only when the "rush" is used, and the number of accidents has been considerably diminished by the introduction of a copper point to the "nail"; but even this has not entirely prevented them. They are caused, 1st, by the "nail" being driven to the very bottom of the hole, and by its contact there, with substances which by percussion afford a spark. 2d. The "nail," during the "tamping," is subject to concussion, which will produce a similar effect to that before mentioned. 3d. The removal of the "nail" will occasion a like result, especially if, at its introduction, it had been so forcibly driven against the bottom as to bend its point. This curved part will occasion considerable agitation in every portion of the contents of the hole, and the danger from this cause will not be materially diminished if the "nail" be pointed with copper. But the greater part of the danger will be obviated by putting a small piece of clay on the bottom of the hole before it is charged; and by not pushing the "nail" to the very extremity thereof.

2d. The dangers incident on the "tamping" process are mostly in consequence of the gunpowder which, it has been before remarked, adheres to the sides of the hole. Whatever spark may be struck out during the operation will communicate to these and ignite the "charge." Fire may be struck, 1st, by the contact of the "tamping bar," with such portions of the sides of the hole as will afford a spark; 2d, by the action of the same instrument on like portions of the "tamping;" but these, of course, do not occur when the bar is shod with copper or brass. 3d. By the friction of such substances in the "tamping," against similar bodies in the sides of the hole; and, 4th, by the friction of various parts of the "tamping" against one another. The precautions to be used against this class of accidents are, 1st, effectually removing the adhering particles of gunpowder from the sides of the hole; 2d, the use of a "tamping bar" shod with a substance which does not readily strike fire; and, 3d, care in selecting, for "tamping," substances which do not readily afford sparks by impact on one another; a list of the most suitable has been before given.

This last class of explosions occurs, notwithstanding the use of "quills" and "safety rods," their causes being beyond the reach of these contrivances. The workman sometimes fires the "rush" instead of the "snog." It is said, by certain people, that explosions sometimes occur from the heat expressed by the condensation of air in the hole, from direct impact of the "tamping bar," &c.: to these fooleries it does not seem necessary to make further allusion. It may be observed, that of the fatal accidents of which we frequently hear, many more appear to be due to the carelessness of the workmen, than to their ignorance.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—Last week, as five men were sinking a winze in Rliestian mine, they had shot a hole; and one of them, named John Branch, descended for the purpose of examining the effect; when, it is thought, he attempted to remove some of the ground round the hole, (which had not properly exploded, but spread through the ground when fired,) when a rush of gas or foul air arose from the broken ground, and filled the winze or shaft branch. He called to those above, who immediately began to haul him up; but when near the top of the winze, his strength being exhausted by the want of a due supply of atmospheric air, he fell out of the slug, and was precipitated to the bottom of the shaft. His father-in-law, Samuel Stephens, then at the top of the winze, seeing what had occurred, went down to his assistance; and not having made any signal to those above, they became alarmed; another man went down, and another followed; but no signal being made by any of the party, Adams, the fifth, and only man then at the top of the winze, anticipating what had occurred, began to pour water down the winze, which had the effect of dispersing the foul air collected. He shortly heard a voice intreating him to continue to pour down water, which he did for some time, till assistance was procured, and the poor fellows brought to the surface, when it was found that John Branch was quite dead, his father-in-law, Samuel Stephens, insensible, and the other two in a very exhausted state. There is no doubt but that all four would have shared the fate of poor Branch, but for their companion's thoughtfulness in pouring down the water. There is some hope of Stephens's recovery; the other two are doing well.—*Cornwall Royal Gazette*.

EXTRAORDINARY ESCAPE.—A few days ago, a person of the name of Moses Simpson was excavating in an iron-stone mine at Cuthorpe, near Chesterfield. In the course of the work, he set what is called a shot to blast part of the rock asunder; he set fire to it, which failed through the dampness of the weather to explode. He went down again to ignite the fuse, but had not landed from the mouth of the pit a moment when it blew up; and large fragments of the stone were hurled up the shaft with such dreadful force as to break in pieces the machinery at the top, and the man thus escaped from being dashed to pieces.—*Doncaster Gazette*.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—On Saturday last, a young lad of the name of John Bryant fell into the tapping pit of the Cambrian Copper Works, Llanelli, into which the contents of two furnaces had been just deposited; and so dreadfully was he scalded, that in stripping off his clothes, his skin adhered to them, and the flesh actually loosened from the bone; he lingered until Sunday morning, when he expired. An inquest was held on the body, and a verdict of accidental death returned.—*Carmarthen Journal*.

ASTRONOMY.—In his last work on astronomy, Mr. Mudie thus cleverly and simply illustrates the apparent annual motion of the sun:—"Place a table in the middle of the room, and set a candle on the table in such a manner as that the flame shall be nearly on a level with the eye, then retiring a little from the table, but looking at the candle, walk round towards the right hand, and the candle will appear to walk round in the opposite part of the room towards its right hand also; that is, when you are to the north of the candle it will appear to move eastward. While you are moving westward, in this state of things, you have only to suppose that the walls of the room represent the region of the stars, that the candle on the table represents the sun at rest in the centre, as the walls which represent the stars are at rest outwards around, and that you represent the earth in performing its annual motion round the sun."—*Times*.

* Cornwall Geol. Trans. I. 33.

† All these figures are intended to denote the respective instruments.

‡ Back holes" are holes nearly horizontal.

§ Cornwall Geol. Trans. I. 32.

¶ Many explosions have originated in want of caution in boring a charge which has not ignited, from the train being extinguished. The "tamping" a, &c., in these cases, removed with the borers, and the workmen take no more care than if they were "beating down" a new hole.

AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE.

CARN BREA.

(Continued from No. 31.)

We have already alluded to the growing attachment of the Saxons towards Christianity, during the brief period in which the superstition of Thor and Woden had been established in Carn Brea; and observed that this superstition appeared destined to fall before the Christian faith. We now proceed to notice its accomplishment. In the other parts of Britain the Saxons had already conformed to Christianity as practised by the Romans, who, even in that early age, had inculcated it with human appendages. Among these appendages the worship of saints and images bore a conspicuous part; and it has been insinuated that this part of the system so closely resembled the worship of Thor and Woden, as to have mainly contributed to the conversion of the Saxons. We are disposed, however, to attribute their conversion to higher and purer motives. By an impartial attention to historical facts, we can easily discover that the Saxons had contrasted the polished structure of Christianity with their own barbarous superstition, and embraced it, not from any resemblance which it bore to the superstition under which they had long groaned, but from conviction of its salutary influences and divine origin.

The Cornish Christians, evincing that stubborn independence which appears to be an inherent principle of their minds, refused to put their necks within the Papal yoke. Careful to scrutinize whatever came under their notice, they contented themselves with the plain gospel system, and rejected such appendages as reason, and conscience, and Scripture taught them to disapprove. Driven from Carn Brea, they reared their altars on distant eminences, in distant woods, and beside distant brooks, where they worshipped with all that regularity and decency of demeanour which unaffected piety is sure to inspire. In their intercourse with the Saxons they bore a blameless conversation. Having but little here they parted with it with the less regret, in confident expectation of a future reward. Influenced by the sacred precepts of their faith, they bore their privations with heroic fortitude; yet for one thing they sorrowed, though not without hope—the desecration of Carn Brea. Thus did the faith and practice of the Cornish Christians attract the attention of the Saxons, and insensibly win their regard. Many there were who, lagging behind the march of intellectual and moral improvement, and pluming themselves on having derived their origin from Woden, retained a lingering affection for their ancient superstition; but the great majority evinced the utmost readiness to participate in the blessings of that faith, the healing influences of which they had witnessed on the Christian community, felt an inward gratification at the destruction of that idolatrous worship which they had established on Carn Brea.

We might quote many bright examples in illustration of the benign influence of Christianity on its converts, a few, however, must suffice. The Grecians were not a little vain of their mythology, a system embracing gods known and unknown. But Christianity was carried into Mars-hill, and the sages abandoning a feeble though elegant system of philosophy, which failed to give man a hope beyond the grave, they embraced the faith of Jesus and the resurrection. The pagan sons of Romulus had consecrated an almost infinite number of deities, statues, and symbols as objects of their divine adoration. But Christianity found its way into the heart of the Roman empire, and was potent to the overthrow of this extensive system of polytheism. The persecutions of the different emperors served as arteries to convey this life-blood through the remotest extremities of this extensive system; and ultimately the fact of a Roman emperor becoming a nursing father to the Christian church was witnessed by the world. Of all the superstitions of human invention none has taken a more deadly grasp on the human mind than that of Druidism. We have already witnessed its degrading influence on the ancient Cornish at Carn Brea, and we shudder involuntarily at the recollection. Several other parts of Britain were sunk almost as low under its baneful influence, and were utterly unable to emerge from their degradation. But Christianity dissolved the spell, and the savage tribes of Britain rose so rapidly in the scale of civilization, that they soon stood forward as the rivals of the polished Italians. The Superstition of Thor and Woden had grasped the Saxons almost as firmly as Druidism had the Britons. But Christianity polished their rude manners, it changed the savage barbarians into a civilized people, and under its happy auspices they became the friendly allies of the ancient Britons, and cheerfully and zealously co-operated with the Cornish Christians against the rapacious Danes, who had so treacherously violated their engagements, and so wantonly ravaged Carn Brea.

[To be continued.]

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1836.

Av.	Thermometer.	Barometer.	Av.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursd.	7 from 37 to 49	29.49 to 29.14	Monday 11	37 .. 52	29.64 .. 29.74
Friday ..	28 .. 49	29.07 .. 21.17	Tuesday 12	20 .. 55	29.67 .. 29.74
Saturd.	9 .. 35	29.24 .. 29.40	Wednesday 13	40 .. 58	29.75 .. 29.83
Sunday 10	32 .. 54	29.46 .. 29.63			

Prevailing winds N. E. S. by W. and W. Except the morning of the 10th, and afternoon of the 11th, generally cloudy, with frequent rain. Rain fallen, 325 of an inch.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE,

Tuesday, April 12.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

R. Clark and H. Martin, porters, cement manufacturers—W. Turner, R. Turner, J. Turner, E. R. Turner, and G. Potter, Blackfriars, Lancashire, cotton-spinners—W. Moore and C. Mole, King's-cross, cheesemongers—S. W. Browne and J. J. Cooper, Liverpool-street, City, oil and colourmen—J. Whitechurch and R. Randall, Borthwick, attorneys—G. Lakeman, Bradford, Hoxton Market-place, cabinet-makers—R. Ward and J. Dewhurst, Bradford, Yorkshire, worsted spinners—J. P. Whitehead and E. B. Whitehead, Bilton, Staffordshire, blank tray makers—M. Cooper and R. B. Cooper, Birmingham, spun manufacturers—T. Penn, H. H. Elford, and E. M. Elford, Shrewsbury, Worcestershire; so far as regards E. M. Elford—J. P. Makeham and J. Simmonds, Coleman-street, City, straw hat manufacturers—J. Foggatt and J. Fornell, Manchester, sewing cotton manufacturers—A. Mitchellson and W. Hall, South Shields, brewers—A. Booth and G. Yeardley, Sheldene, grocers—E. Hawley and T. Brandon, Penny-fields, Poplar, coal and potash dealers—S. Hibbert, G. Hibbert, and W. Williamson, Draycott, Derbyshire, glass thread manufacturers—T. Tyerman and J. D. Paine, Exchange-buildings—C. H. Hervey, A. J. Hervey, and M. Pearce, Blackheath, schoolmistresses—J. Rudd, jun., and W. Bradbury, Saffron-worth, merchants—H. Budd, son, and H. Budd, jun., Wardour-street, Soho, bricklayers—R. Fernier and A. Wilson, Stocking-cotton spinners—E. Hardy, C. Hardy, and M. A. Hardy, York, turners.

INSOLVENTS.

April 11.—Samuel Hibbert and George Hibbert, Draycott, Derbyshire, cotton bankers.

BANKRUPTS.

Joseph Cox, Bradford, Yorkshire, draper, to successor April 19, May 21, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basing-hall-street, solicitor, Mr. Parker, St. Paul's Church-yard, official assignee, Mr. Graham, Cophall-buildings.

John Williams, Strand, tailor, April 19, May 24, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basing-hall-street, solicitor, Mr. Parker, St. Paul's Church-yard, official assignee, Mr. Whitmore, Basing-hall-street.

Peter Green, Stamford-street, Blackfriars, agent, April 19, May 24, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basing-hall-street, solicitor, Mr. Holmes, Liverpool-street, City; official assignee, Mr. Pennell.

Charles Rickaby, Chalcot-terrace, Lambeth, auctioneer, April 22, May 24, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basing-hall-street, solicitor, Mr. Bowden, Great Suffolk-street, Southwark; official assignee, Mr. Belcher.

Thomas Cunningham Matheson, Mansell-street, Minories, ship-owner, April 22, May 24, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basing-hall-street, solicitor, Mr. Dods, Northumberland-street, Strand; official assignee, Mr. Pennell.

Eustace Smith, Rochester, linen draper, April 19, May 24, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basing-hall-street, solicitor, Mr. Warne, Leadenhall-street; official assignee, Mr. Green, Aldermanbury.

Charles Orrall, Huddersfield, draper, April 26, May 24, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basing-hall-street, solicitor, Mr. Reed, Bread-street, Cheapside; official assignee, Mr. Gibson, Basing-hall-street.

Charles Martin and Benjamin Ware, Great Tower-street, wholesale cheesemongers, April 26, May 24, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basing-hall-street, solicitor, Mr. Hill, Cophall-court, Throgmorton-street; official assignee, Mr. Alsager, King's-cross, Cornhill.

Charles Walker, Lower Belgrave-place, Pimlico, wharfinger, April 22, May 24, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basing-hall-street, solicitor, Mr. Trott, Crown-court, Threadneedle-street; official assignee, Mr. Groom, Achurch-lane.

Arthur Fry, Blackfriars-road, hat manufacturer, April 19, May 24, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basing-hall-street, solicitor, Mr. Bevan, Castle-court, Fenchurch-street; official assignee, Mr. Johnson, Basing-hall-street.

John Heap, Manchester, builder, April 27, May 24, at the Commissioners' Rooms, Manchester, solicitors, Mr. Hammerton, Todmorden; and Mr. Emmett, New Inn, Ampleforth-street, Stone, Staffordshire, printer, April 27, May 24, at the Crown-street, Stone, solicitors, Mr. Barlow, Stone, and Mr. Barker, Gray's Inn-square.

Sarah Belcher, Doncaster, innkeeper, May 7, 24, at the Guildhall, Doncaster, solicitors, Messrs. Musson and Collinson, Doncaster; and Messrs. Forbes, Hale, and Boys, Ely place, Holborn.

DIVIDENDS.

May 3, E. Baugh, Sloane-street, Chelsea, draper—May 8, W. Mill, Fenchurch-street, woolen-draper—May 3, C. T. Kirby, Crawford-street, perfumery-superior, lace-mill—May 4, Sir G. Bissett, Bart., Sir F. B. Morland, Bart., and T. T. Bernard, Fenchurch-street, bankers—May 4, J. Wilkinson, J. Struth, and R. J. T. Perkins, Leadenhall-street, bankers—May 6, J. Robinson, Birmingham, jobbing-smith—May 7, T. Dale, Birmingham, merchant—May 8, R. Bell, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant—May 9, J. Fisher, Great Bridge, Staffordshire, iron-merchant—May 10, G. Goulton, Liverpool, wine and spirit dealer—May 17, G. Maggs, Bristol, lace-draper.

AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE.

Friday, April 13.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

S. Margerison, D. Peacock, and W. Aldam, Bradford, Yorkshire, worsted spinners—T. Armstrong and J. Howell, Brecon, surgeon—H. Hanson and J. S. Shaw, Ashton-under-Lyne, tea-drivers—F. Clement and W. Bryant, jun., Colgate-street, City, bottled ale and porter merchants—J. Burridge and J. Smith, Liverpool, clock-makers—T. Quaife and R. Luck, Battle, Sussex, farmers—W. Oldfield and T. Walmsley, Stockport, millers—C. Green and J. Whitehead, Park-street, Southwark, dyers—C. H. Stonehouse and A. Crossfield, Newport, Monmouthshire, shipbrokers—W. Harman, J. Powell, and E. Hardman, Bury, Lancashire, merchants—W. P. Barton and C. Hinde, Liverpool, joiners—J. Dewhurst and R. Ward, Bradford, Yorkshire, worsted-spinners—G. J. L. Stubbs, W. I. Stubbs, and H. J. Stubbs, Great Portland-street, furnish-manufacturers—J. G. Lynch and S. Lewis, Mincing-lane, wine-merchants.

INSOLVENT.

April 14, Thomas Ditchburn, White Lion-court, Cornhill, scrivener.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

Joseph Hadley, Birmingham, bone and horn button-manufacturer, from April 19 to May 16.

BANKRUPTS.

William Ward, Warrford-court, City, merchant, to surrender April 26, May 27, at the Bankrupt's Court, Solicitors, Messrs. Parfitter and Fisher, London-street, Fenchurch-street, official assignee, Mr. Alsager, King's Arms-buildings, Cornhill, James Broadhurst, Norbury, Cheshire, wheelwright, April 26, May 27, at the Commissioners' Rooms, Manchester, solicitors, Messrs. Coppock and Woollam, Stockport; and Mr. Coppock, Cleveland-row, St. James's.

William Croft, Preston, plumber, May 10, 27, at the Town Hall, Preston, solicitors, Mr. Neble, Preston; and Messrs. Perkins and Frapton, Gray's Inn-square.

William Winterton, Borrowash, Derbyshire, grocer, April 29, May 27, at the King's Head-inn, Derby, solicitors, Mr. Flecker, Wardwick, Derbyshire; and Mr. Cope, Raymond-buildings, Gray's Inn.

Thomas Allen, Wolverhampton, silversmith, May 6, 27, at the Lion Inn, Wolverhampton-buildings, Gray's Inn.

Michael Gray, Pickering Canal Head, Yorkshire, coal-merchant, April 28, May 27, at the George Inn, York, solicitors, Mr. Leaman, Stonegate, York; and Messrs. Johnson, Son and Wetherall, King's Bench-walk, Temple.

Robert Smart, Flax Bourton, Somersetshire, brewer, April 23, May 27, at the Commercial Rooms, Bristol, solicitors, Mr. Cornish, Bristol; and Messrs. Poole and Gammon, Gray's Inn-square.

DIVIDENDS.

May 6, J. Turnbull, J. Forbes, H. A. Crawford, and D. Skeene, Broad-street, City, merchants—May 6, B. Powis, St. Helen's-place, City, merchant—May 7, J. Smith, Old Broad-street, City, stock-broker—May 7, G. Heather and E. Argies, St. Ann's-place, Limehouse, mahogany-merchants—May 9, H. Dodd, Ambleide, Westmoreland, innkeeper—May 10, A. Jones, Carmarthen, banker—May 10, T. Gilbert, Birmingham, coal-dealer—May 10, P. T. Soboles, Oldham, Lancashire, grocer—May 9, J. Andrew, Wirksworth, Derbyshire, scrivener—May 10, J. Swettenham, Wirksworth, Derbyshire, grocer—May 7, W. Welsh, Liverpool, common brewer—May 11, A. Woodward, Liverpool, wine-merchant—May 7, P. Lee, Winchester, scrivener—May 18, W. Wright, Rougham, Norfolk, horse-dealer—May 12, T. Chadwick, Crab Eye, Lancashire.

CERTIFICATES to be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on or before

May 6.

J. Arnell, Edward-street, Hampstead-road, coal-merchant—R. Drew, Hampstead-road, currier—C. Flitton, St. James's-street, tailor—G. T. Whittington, New Bond-street, City, merchant—J. Stevenson, Bishop Wearmouth, saddler—N. Richards, London-wall, carpenter—H. Penfold, Salisbury, linen-draper—T. Richardson, Leeds, money-servicer.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE COLONIAL MARKETS.—Since Friday last the British Plantation market has presented a very animated appearance; the transactions have been considerable, and the prices generally have advanced fully 1s. per cwt., and have now nearly reached the late high currency, the demand made by the grocers has been great, the refining companies have also purchased very freely such descriptions as are fit for refining purposes. The purchases for the week are estimated at 5,200 hds., the prices realised for strong Demerara of good quality are 6s. 6d. to 6s. 1d., and for Jamaica, Grenada, and other kinds of middling quality, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 1d.; good grocery Antigua 6s. 6d. to 6s. 1d., fine quality 6s. 7d. to 6s. At public sale on Tuesday next 130 casks of new Barbadoes sugar will be brought forward for sale.

Mauritius.—This description has participated in the improvement experienced in the British Plantation market, and the grocers have also been ready purchasers at an advance of 6d. per cwt. A public sale took place on Wednesday, when 5,942 bags were brought forward, the whole sold with much briskness at the above advance; very low brown 5s. 6d. to 6s.; good ditto 6s. 6d. to 6s.; fine dry white 6s. to 6s. Two public sales are advertised for Tuesday next, consisting of 7,500 bags.

Refined Sugar.—Refined goods have been in more demand, and prices may be stated about 6d. to 6s. higher than this day week; the grocers have been free buyers of lumps from 8s. 6d. to 9s.; goods suitable for exportation have been bought after at better prices. About 200 hds. of crushed sugar of the Amsterdam make have been disposed of during the week at 4s. 6d.; fine ditto may be quoted at 6s. to 6s. 6d.; fine Hamburg loaves 7s. 6d. to 8s.; double refined 10s. to 10s.; green loaves are still in demand at 2s. to 2s. 6d.; British molasses 20s. to 21s.; B. West India 2s. to 2s. 6d.

COFFEES.—The market for British Plantation coffees has been dull all week, still prices are not lower; of the small quantity brought forward by public auction, about 170 casks only, a small proportion has been sold; meanest Jamaica of middling quality brought 9s. to 9s. 6d.; middling Demerara 9s. to 9s. 6d.; a large parcel of Ceylon was brought to public sale, consisting of 1,000 bags, but nearly the whole quantity was bought in, there being so buyers at the present price. Mocha of good quality cannot now be purchased under 7s. to 8s. In foreign kinds the transactions were confined to a few parcels of Brazil by private contract, which were done at 5s. to 5s. Intelligence from the continental markets states that quiet prevails.

TEAS.—On Wednesday morning the private trade sales commenced at the Commercial Sale Rooms, Mincing-lane; there was a full attendance of the trade; the quantity declared for sale is rather more than 60,000 packages; during the day the demand for fine tea was pretty active, at prices fully as high as those previously realised. By the accounts received from Canton to the 26th of last December, the total supplies this season from China, as compared with the exports from Canton in the previous years, will show a deficiency. At the sales on Thursday and Friday a decided advance in prices took place, a great portion of the quantity brought forward found buyers at an advance upon the prices of the last public sales; the improvement is principally in common Congon and Bokas, the former 2d. to 2d. higher, the latter 1d. higher. Bokas 1d., common Congon 1s. 6d.; good 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.; Twankey 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d.; Hysen 5s. 2d. to 5s. 6d.; fine ditto may be quoted at 2s. to 2s. 6d.; fine Hamburg leaves 7s. 6d. to 8s.; double refined 10s. to 10s.; green loaves are still in demand at 2s. to 2s. 6d.; British molasses 20s. to 21s.; B. West India 2s. to 2s. 6d.

HOPS.—No alteration can be made from last week's currency; the demand is still brisk for the fine descriptions, and owing to the quantity left should bring small, holders are looking for higher prices.

TALLOW.—There continues to be a brisk demand from the trade for parcels on the spot at 4s. 3d., which price is fully equal to those of last week; but for delivery the market has become extremely dull, and prices have given way from 4s. 3d. down to 4s. 6d., at which price there is much disposition to sell.

SEPLTER.—There is very little doing; holders ask 1s. on the spot, and 1s. 6d. for delivery. The arrivals are 27,000 pieces.

LIVERPOOL, APRIL 13, 1836.

INNERS.—A small parcel of Caracas Indigo was sold this day by public auction, consisting of very ordinary qualities, which fetched an advance of 4d. and is on the January currency. The Indigo has arrived from Calcutta with an asserted cargo; she was reported to have on board 800 to 1,000 chests of Indigo, it turns out, however, that she has not brought a single package.

CORN EXCHANGE, APRIL 13, 1836.

We have had a good supply of Wheat and Flour this week, and the mealng is particularly dull-to-day, and is 1s. per quarter lower than on Monday. Barley is rather cheaper than otherwise, but Beans and Peas are unaltered in value. The arrival of Oats is moderate, and though the trade is dull we cannot quote it lower.

Wheat.—p. Qtr. 42s to 50s | Malt.—p. Qtr. 50s to 60s | Oats.—p. Qtr. 18s to 27s | Rye.—p. 50s to 54s | Peas.—p. 22s to 45s | Bran.—p. 9s to 16s | Barley.—p. 36s to 37s | Beans.—p. 36s to 40s | Pollard.—p. 14s to 20s | Linseed.—p. 50s to 70s | Coriander Seed.—new 16s to 18s per Cwt. | Clover Seed.—red 16s to 22s; do. | Dittto Cake.—15s per 1000 | Rape seed.—33s to 35s per Cwt. | Mustard Seed, ne. wh. 16s to 18s per Cwt. | Caraway Seed.—50s to 60s per Cwt.

FLOUR.—per sack.

Town made.—50s to 60s | Essex & Norfolk, on board.—50s to 62s | Norfolk and Stockton.—50s to 60s | Seconds.—50s to 60s

AVERAGE PRICE OF GRAIN, per Quarter.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

ENGLISH PUBLIC FUNDS.

	Saturday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.
BANK STOCK, 8 per Cent.	214 12	214 8	218	213	213	213
8 per Cent. Red. Anns.	91 12	91 12	91 1	91 1	90 1	91 90 2
8 per Cent. Consols	92 12	91 2	92 12	91 2	91 2	91 2
84 per Cent. Anns.	181 8	—	—	99 4	99 4	99 4
8 per Cent. Anns.	172 6	—	—	99 4	99 4	99 4
84 per Cent. Red. Anns.	90 4	90 4	98 9	98 8	98 8	98 8
New 84 per Cent. Anns.	100 2	100 2	100 2	100 2	100 2	100 2
New 5 per Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long Anns.	180 10	16 1-16	16 1-16	16 1-16	15 15-16	15 15-16
Anns. for 50 Years	180 15	—	—	15 15	15 15	15 15
Ditto.	180 10	16 2-16	—	16 2	16 2	16 2
Omnium.	—	—	—	259 8	258 9	258 9
India Stock, 104 per Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Sea Stock, 34 per Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto Old Anns. 3 per Cent.	80 6	80 6	80 6	—	—	—
Ditto New Anns. 3 per Cent.	90 2	90 2	90 2	—	—	—
3 per Cent. Anns.	175 1	—	—	—	—	—
India Bonds, 24 per Cent.	8 6 pm	8 6 pm	8 5 pm	7 pm	5 pm	5 7 pm
Exchequer Bills, 1jd. & 1000.	21 20	20 22	22 21	21 21	19 21	18 20 pm
Ditto	250 10	250 20	22 21	22 21	21 21	18 20 pm
Ditto	Small. 21 20	20 22	22 21	21 21	19 21	18 20 pm
Ditto	2d. Com.	—	20 22 pm	—	—	20
3 per Cent. Cons. for Account	92	91 2	91 2	92 12	—	—
India Stock Om. for Op. Apr. 14	258 2	259	259 8	258 9	—	—

BANK OF ENGLAND.—TRANSFER BOOKS.

	SHUT.	OPEN.
Bank Stock.	Thursday, March 3, 1836	Thursday, April 14, 1836
3 per Cent. Reduced.	Thursday, March 3, —	Thursday, April 21, —
34 per Cent. 1818.	Friday, March 4, —	Friday, April 15, —
Long Annuities.	Wednesday, March 2, —	Monday, April 18, —
Anns. for terms of years.	Tuesday, March 8, —	Thursday, April 21, —
Old South Sea Annuities	Friday, March 4, —	Wednesday, April 29, —

FOREIGN STOCKS.

	Saturday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.
Austrian, 5 per Cent.	—	104 2	—	104 2	—	—
Belgian, 5 per Cent.	103 9	86 54	86 4	86 4	86 4	—
Brazilian.	86 4 6	86 54	86 4	86 4	86 4	—
Ditto, 1829.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Buenos Ayres, 6 per Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cuba, 6 per Cent.	—	—	—	—	92	—
Chilian, 6 per Cent.	48 9	49	—	48 9	48 4	—
Colombian, 6 per Cent.	32 2	32 3	33 2	33 2	33	—
Ditto, 1824, ditto.	76	76	76	76	76	—
Danish, 3 per Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutch, 24 per Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greek, 4 per Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto, 1825, 5 per Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mexican, 5 per Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto, deferred.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto, 1825, 6 per Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neapolitan, 5 per Cent., 1824.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peruvian, 6 per Cent.	84 52	85 3	85 4	85 4	85 4	—
Ditto, New ditto.	85 48	84 8	85 46	85 4	84 8	—
Ditto, 3 per Cent.	55 48	54 8	55 2	54 2	54 2	—
Prussian, 4 per Cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Russian, 1822, 5 per Cent.	—	—	100	—	108 5	—
Spanish, 5 per Cent. Consols	46 8	46 7	47 7	47 6	46 7	47 8
Ditto, passive.	148 8	148 2	148 8	148 2	148 2	148 15
Ditto, deferred.	21 4	21 4	21 4	21 4	21 4	21 4
Dutch, 24 per Cent.	56 4	56 4	56 2	56 2	56 2	56 2
Ditto, per Cent.	101 2	101 2	101 2	101 2	101 2	101 2

FRENCH FUNDS.

	PARIS.	APRIL 9.	APRIL 11.	APRIL 13.	APRIL 15.	APRIL 17.	APRIL 19.	APRIL 21.	APRIL 23.	APRIL 25.	APRIL 27.
5 per Cent. Ann.	107,936 10-9.	107,936 10-9.	107,936 10-9.	107,936 10-9.	107,936 10-9.	107,936 10-9.	107,936 10-9.	107,936 10-9.	107,936 10-9.	107,936 10-9.	107,936 10-9.
Ex. on Lond. 1 mth.	257,474 25-47c.										
ditto 3 mth.	256,324 25-30c.										
44 per Cent. Ann.	104F.	103F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 per Cent. Ann.	101F.20c.	101F.20c.	101F.20c.	101F.20c.	100F.75c.	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 per cent.	82c.	82c.5c.	82c.16c.	82c.16c.	81f.90c.	82f.50c.	—	—	—	—	—
Bank Shares	2277.	2235f.	2250f.	2235f.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

IRISH FUNDS.

	APRIL 14.	1836.
Bank Stock.	207	Royal Canal Stock.
Government Debentures	34 per cent.	91 2
Ditto Stock.	34 per cent.	91 2
Ditto New.	34 per cent.	99 2
Ditto, reduced.	34 per cent.	99 2
Ditto ditto.	34 per cent.	99 2
Consols.	8 per cent.	91 2
City Debentures.	4 per cent.	City of Dublin Steam Co.
Exchequer Bills.	2d per cent.	Kingstown Railway

AMERICAN FUNDS.

Lond.	America.	Lond.	America.
Responsible.	Responsible.	Responsible.	Responsible.
New York 6 1837	100 14	Louisiana 5 1844, 7, 50, 2.	100 1
1845	120	New Mexico 6 1861, 60, 71	—
8 1857	100 14	INCORPORATED BANKS.	—
1845	110	Per Cent.	—
Pennsylv. 1839, 49, 41	103	United States 7 1836.	120
1845	108 9	Louisiana State 9 1870.	25 1
1853, 4.	107 9	Bank of Louisiana 8 1870.	26
1856	110	N. Orleans, C. & B.	22 108
1860, 62	102 13	City Bank.	110
1865.	103 13	New York Life and Trust 5	93
Maryland 6 1870	108	Tenese Planters 9	234
Ohi.	6 1850	Mississippi, 10	264
	107	Exchange.	8

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

	PRICES OF EXCHANGE.	PRICES OF EXCHANGE.	PRICES OF EXCHANGE.
	PRICES OF EXCHANGE.	PRICES OF EXCHANGE.	PRICES OF EXCHANGE.
Priced.	Prices registered on Change.	Priced.	Prices registered on Change.
Amsterdam	12 7 12 6 6	Seville	36 4
Ditto at Sight	12 5 12 4	Gibraltar, p. a. d.	48
Rotterdam	12 7 12 6 12 64	Leyhorn	47 8
Antwerp	12 6 12 5 12 5	Genoa	25 95
Hamburg Mts. H.	13 14 13 13 13 13 132	Milan	31 31
Altona	13 14 13 14	Venice, p. 6 A. L.	47
Paris, 3 days' sight	35 65	Naples	40
Ditto	35 85	Paterno	122 124 122 124
Marseilles	25 95	Lisbon	